HIMEYUKA &
ROZIONE'S
STORY
SUMOMO YUMEKA

HIMEYUKA & ROZIONE'S STRANGE STORY

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STOP SENDING ME JUNK FROM BACK IN THE DAY AND MAKING MORE WORK FOR ME.
ANYWAY, I HAVE TO GET TO SCHOOL, SO I'M HANGING UP NOW.
But they're your precious memories. It's a shame to throw them out just like that. Unwanted ghosts will start haunting yo—
HI, MOM?
(BEEP)
EXCUSE ME.
COULD YOU PUT THIS OUT WITH THE TRASH AS WELL?

I, HIMEYUKA, SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD, TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF MY PARENTS' JOB TRANSFER TO LIVE ON MY OWN AT THE EDGE OF THE CITY.
UNWANTED GHOSTS? WHAT'S THAT?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
MY PARENTS ARE A LITTLE WEIRD.
THEY EVEN SENT ME SOME OLD CRAP TODAY.
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THEY'RE STILL LITTLE KIDS ON THE INSIDE?
TALK ABOUT A MAJOR PAIN IN THE BUTT, HUH?
I MEAN, WHAT WAS THE POINT OF ME MOVING OUT?
SERIOUSLY, THEY'RE ALWAYS DOING ALL KINDS OF USELESS THINGS...
3
REPAIR
YOUR CLOTHES ARE THE WEIRDEST THING HERE! ☆
AH.
HUH?
SORRY!

HEY, HEY! HOW COME YOU DO THAT?
DO YOU REALLY THINK SOMETHING GOOD'LL COME FROM KEEPING 'EM IN THERE OR SOMETHING?
YAMAMOTO, THE WEIRDO!
HEEEY! YAMA-MOTO-KUUUN!
WHAT WAS THAT SNICKER FOR?
DO YOU HAVE THOSE CANDIES IN YOUR POCKET AGAIN TODAY?
CAN I HAVE ONE?
SURE.
NN. HIMEYUKA, YOU EAT ONE TOO.
I'VE NEVER WANTED ONE, AND I NEVER WILL!
SERIOUSLY.

?
WHO IN THE WORLD WOULD PULL THIS KIND OF PRANK .....?
HOW LAME.
I COULD NEVER BE FRIENDS WITH A GUY LIKE THAT!!
ZAWA (CHATTER)
ザワザワ
ZAWA
FOR SOME BIZARRE REASON, IT WOULD SEEM THAT..
...MY CASTLE (AKA APARTMENT)... HAD BEEN COVERED IN SCRIBBLES...

YOUNG PEOPLE NOWADAYS WASTE THEIR ENERGY DOING SUCH MEANING-LESS THINGS.
DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH THEM!
GI CREAK
.....
IT'S THE SAME INSIDE.

HUH ...!?
WHAT THE HECK...
...IS THIS?
WHO'S THAT!?
TA (DASH)
WH—
HIMEYUKA!!
SUKU (STAND)
!!

EH!?
WELCOME HOME, HIMEYUKA.
HANG ON.....
GYU (HUG)
SAY WHAT —!?
SA—
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU!
SFX: SUPERINTENDENT
THIS IS BEYOND WORDS! I HAVE NO IDEA WHOSE CHILD THIS IS!

AND VANDALIZING THE INSIDE!
SNEAKING INTO MY APARTMENT LIKE THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT THIS?
WHOSE CHILD COULD YOU BE...?
OH MY GOODNESS!
EH!?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
WHY DO I HAVE TO CLEAN UP YOUR MESS...?
WHA...
LOOK, HIME-YUKA!
YOU LOVED DOING THIS, DIDN'T YOU!?
HEY! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING !?
IT'S NOT "YOU." I HAVE A NAME, YOU KNOW. ROZIONE.
AH,
NUK (TRK)
HOH!

GA (GRAB)
I TOLD YOU TO KNOCK IT OFF!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME TELL YOU TO STOP JUST NOW?
YOUR POWERS OF COMPREHENSION ARE SHOCKINGLY LACKING.
AND STOP TOSSING MY NAME AROUND LIKE THAT!
BUT, HIME-YUKA ...
CAN'T YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE THINGS THAT YOU CAN AND CAN'T DO?
THAT'S WHY I HATE KIDS.
BUT YOU DO KNOW ME!
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO ALL THIS FOR SOME KID I DON'T EVEN KNOW?
GEEZ, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!

WE PLAYED TOGETHER ALL THE TIME!
AND YOU SCRIBBLED ALL OVER THE PLACE TOO—...
THERE YOU GO, LYING AGAIN AND MESSING A...
...ROUND...
C—
CRYING ISN'T GONNA GET YOU OFF THE HOOK!
.....
JUST HURRY UP AND ERASE IT!
THIS IS ALL YOUR OWN FAULT IN THE FIRST PLACE!
'COS YOU DREW ALL OVER EVERY-THING...

BUT I DREW IT ALL FOR YOU.
EH...
KYAH ...!

.....
HM-MM...
...IT'S ALL GONE—...
THE WRITING ON THE WALLS...
THERE ARE SOME PRETTY AMAZING ...
...GADGETS OUT THERE LATELY...
.....
...HUH...?

KO (POKE)
KO
NN...
GORO (ROLL)
URGH ...
Rozione is going to die of hunger!
Wake up already, Himeyuka!

KYAAA

TELL ME, HIMEYUKA.
WERE YOU LONELY WITHOUT ROZIONE?
YOU WERE LONELY, RIGHT?
RURURU (RRRRING)
MA (GASP)
Y-YES?
HELLO?
OHH, MOM, WHAT'S UP?
NOTHING'S THE MATTER.
I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE, SO JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.
PII (BEEP)
LATER.

DOES HIMEYUKA NOT LIKE MAMA ANY-MORE?
HUH?
IT...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
...LIKE A LITTLE KID...
BUT THAT'S OKAY.
SHE JUST KEEPS TREATING ME...
STAY AS YOU ARE, HIMEYUKA.
WH—
WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?
HEY.....
LET GO OF ME! RIGHT THIS INSTANT!

LOOK, HIMEYUKA!
THIS.
STARS ARE FLOATING IN THE SKY!
SIGN: SALE
THAT'S NOTHING SPECIAL.
THEY'RE JUST RUBBER BALLS FILLED WITH HELIUM.
OHHH...
THERE'S A PERSON INSIDE.
AN OUT-OF-WORK TEMP PROBABLY.
DEFINITELY DON'T WANNA END UP LIKE THAT.
HMPH!
SIGN: NEW SLOTS JUST IN!
THEN THAT!
SEE!? SEE!? GREAT BIG MISTER RABBIT!

.....
IS...
IS HIMEYUKA BORED OF BEING WITH ROZIONE?
.....
...MAKE SURE YOU GO RIGHT HOME THIS TIME LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY.
WH-WHAT'S WITH YOU NOW...
M-MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...
OKAY? UNDER-STAND?
YOU CAN'T COME BACK.

.....
GII (CREAK)
GHA (KACHAK)
KA (CLICK)
KA
KA

aH!
welcome Home—!
!?
HEY! LOOK, HIME-YUKA!
THIS IS A PRESENT JUST FOR YOU.
ISN'T IT CUTE? I BOUGHT IT AT THE TOY STORE.
WHY ARE YOU HERE AGAIN!?
HERE! HERE!
TAKE IT, AND TRY IT OUT!
YOU'RE GOING HOME!
GU CLANG

NO!
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO MEAN!?
LET ME GO, HIME-YUKA!
I AM NOT BEING MEAN!
YOUR PARENTS MUST BE WORRIED SICK!
ROZIONE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
ROZIONE DOESN'T HAVE A HOME TO GO BACK TO.
ROZIONE ONLY HAS HIMEYUKA!

I'M NOT GOING ANY-WHERE.
I'M STAYING RIGHT HERE ...!
.....
HELLO, IS THIS THE POLICE?

I'M WATCHING OVER A LOST CHILD, AND I'D LIKE SOMEONE TO COME PICK HIM UP.
YES, THAT'S FINE. TOMORROW THEN.
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
Click
(DEEP)

.....
ENOUGH OF THAT.
THAT WAS CLOSE.
WHAT AM I DOING?
SFX: BUN (WAVE) BUN
.....
YOU'RE CUTE, HIMEYUKA.
SUU (ZZZ)

...IN HOLDING ONTO STUFF LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW.
THERE'S NO POINT...
—.....
—WITH HUMP
WHAT IS—
WHAT IF THERE IS?
EH?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, PLAYING IN THE RAIN!?
DON'T! YOU'LL CATCH A COLD!
WAI —!
Welcome Home—!
aH!
YOU'RE ALWAYS MAD, HIMEYUKA.
AH HA HA HA HA!!
WHA —!?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE DOING ALL THESE STUPID—
BASHA (SPLASH)

BASHI (SPLOOSH)
IT'S NOT SAFE TO RUN AR—
COME ON! HIMEYUKA, LET'S PLAY!
TA (DASH)
HEY...
...OW...
IT GOT IN MY EYES...
LET ME HAVE A...
COME HERE.
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR RUNNING IN THE RAIN.
SEE?

...LOOK —!?
STOP RIGHT THERE, YOU...
...LITTLE TWERP!
KURA (BLUSH)
AH HA HA HA !!
GOTCHA!
ST...

HEY!
...SICK... OR YOU'RE GONNA GET...
COME ON, GET THOSE OFF.
I'M COVERED IN MUD, AND IT'S ALL 'COS OF YOU!
ROZIONE HAD LOTS OF FUN TODAY.
NEXT TIME IT RAINS, LET'S PLAY SOME MORE, HIMEYUKA.
DID HIMEYUKA HAVE FUN TOO?
WHAT ABOUT HIME-YUKA?

OHH.
A CAT BIT ME.
A CAT? THERE'S NO WAY A CAT COULD DO THAT KIND OF DAMAGE!
HOLY CRAP!
WHY DO YOU HAVE A SCAR LIKE THAT !?
REMEMBER?
THE FAT CAT THAT LIVED NEXT DOOR.
IT BIT ME, AND A WHOLE BUNCH OF STUFFING FELL OUT MY SIDE?
HIMEYUKA STITCHED ME UP AT FIRST 'COS MAMA WAS TOO BUSY, BUT.....
...THE STITCHES WERE TOO BIG, AND THE STUFFING WOULDN'T STAY IN...
...SO MAMA SECRETLY FIXED ME UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
...AND REMEMBER HOW HAPPY WE WERE THE NEXT DAY?

PIN POON...
(DING DONNING...)
WE'RE FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.
WE'VE COME TO TAKE CUSTODY OF A LOST CHILD?
OHH.
AND THAT WOULD BE HIM, YES?
COME AGAIN?
WAIT, HOLD UP...
NOW COME WITH US, OKAY?
!
GA (GRAB)
HI-HIME-YUKA!
I MEAN, THERE'S JUST NO WAY...
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

DON'T YOU NEED ROZIONE ANYMORE?
HIME-YUKA!
IT CAN'T BE...
DO YOU HATE ROZIONE NOW?
WHY, HIME-YUKA!?
IT JUST CAN'T ...
HIME-YUKA .....
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.

ABOUT THE JUNK THAT WAS HERE THE OTHER DAY.....
IT'S PROBABLY ALREADY BEEN THROWN OUT, RIGHT?
U-UM, EXCUSE ME.
SOME-THING LIKE THAT COULD NEVER—
ROZIONE HAD LOTS OF FUN!
HOW ABOUT HIMEYUKA?
IS HIMEYUKA HAVING FUN?

ARE YOU LONELY WITHOUT ROZIONE?
... YUKA ...
HIMEYUKA.
I HA (GASP)
YOUR PHONE'S RINGING.
PI (BEEP)
AH, SORRY.
YES, HELLO?
Oh, hello. About the little boy that we took in yesterday...he actually seems to have run away.
We can't find him anywhere.
SFX: GATA (CLATTER) GATA GATA
...if he should return to your apartment, please contact us...
Oh, and also ...
Sorry to trouble you, but...
EH...?
ALL RIGHT, LET'S END THERE FOR TODAY.
...he left something behind...

YAMA-MOTO-KUN!
AH...
WELL, UM...
C-COULD I...
...HAVE A PIECE OF CANDY TOO?
I'M IN NEED OF SOME COURAGE.
UWAH! HOW FILTHY.

PLEASE WAIT...
WAIT!!
YES PLEASE, IF YOU COULD.
SHALL I THROW IT AWAY?
SFX ZEE (WHEEZE) ZEE
THAT DOLL...
THAT...
IT'S MINE.

O-OH, REALLY?
I'M SORRY.
HERE YOU GO...
...ROZIONE LOVES HIMEYUKA A WHOLE LOT.
HOW ABOUT HIMEYUKA?
DOES HIMEYUKA LOVE ROZIONE?

Himeyuka & Rozione's Story <<< END.

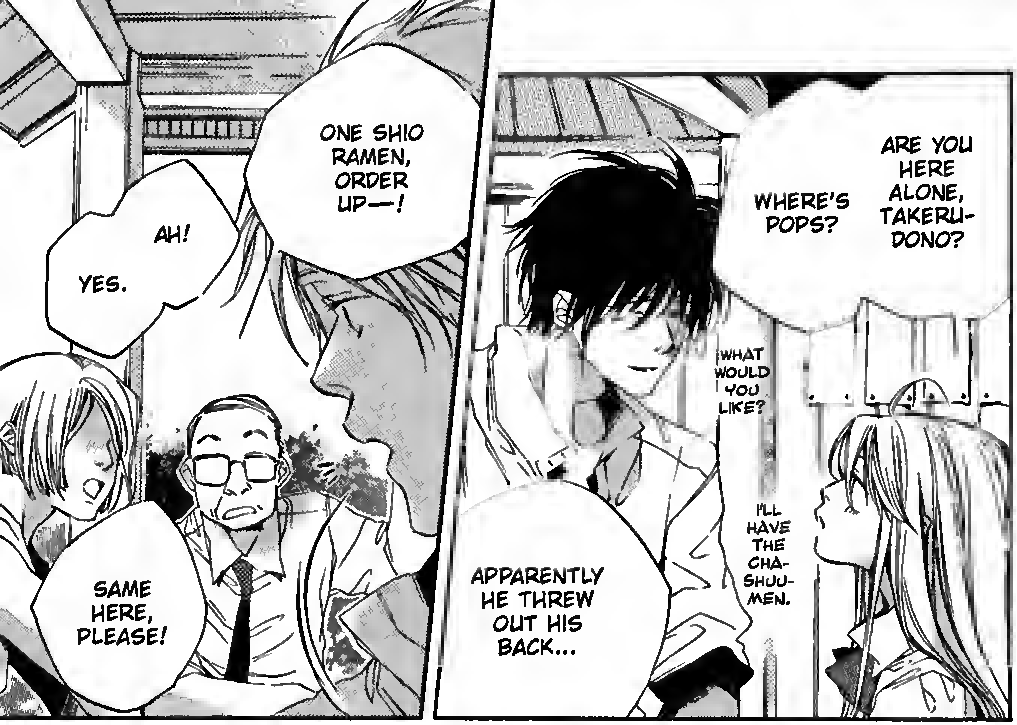
THE PRINCESS OF KIKOUYA
IN DISTRICT 1

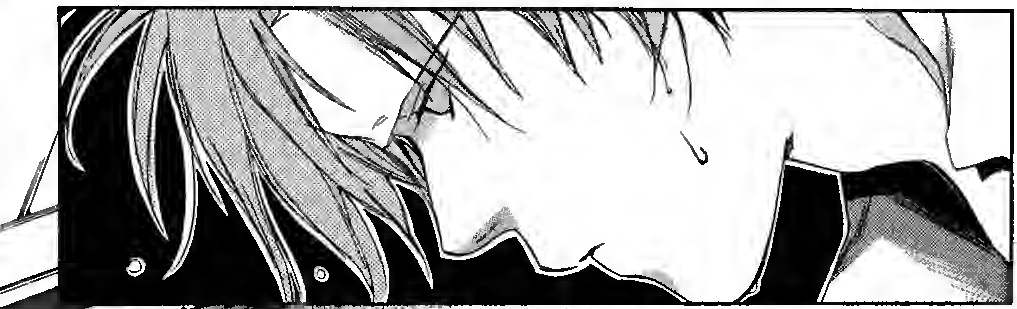
THERE ARE TWO THINGS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN ANYTHING ELSE RIGHT NOW.
GIVE IT UP, WOULD YA!?
GATE (SHAKE)
GATE (SHAKE)
HUH?
SAYS WHO?
AAAA (SHRIEK)
YOU SHOULD BE PICKING ON SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE, NOT SHAKING DOWN SOME HIGH SCHOOLER —!
IDIOTS LIKE YOU MAKE THE REST OF US LOOK BAD!

PRINCESS—!
PRIN-CESS!
WE LOOKED EVERY-WHERE FOR YOU, PRINCESS!
WAAAH!
PRINCESS!
PRINCESS!
THE FIRST IS...
I WASN'T RUNNING AWAY OR ANY-THING.
PRINCESS!
LET'S GO HOME!
AAAGH!
PLEASE UNDERSTAND! THIS IS A ROUGH TIME FOR US, WHAT WITH THE FORMER BOSS'S PASSING AND ALL...
THIS ARRANGED UNION WITH THE DAIMON-JIGUMI IS TOO GOOD TO PASS UP!

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ARRANGE-MENT!
BUT THIS IS FOR THE SAKE OF THE AYANOKOUJI FAMILY.
IT'S NOT YOUR ABILITY THAT'S IN QUES-TION...
ZA! (CROWD...)
...THE AYANOKOUJI-GUMI LEFT TO ME BY MY FATHER.
GYU (CLENCH)
I LOVE YOU GUYS.
IF IT'S FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAMILY, I'LL GLADLY GET MARRIED...
...BUT...
PLEASE JUST WAIT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER!
...I JUST NEED YOU ALL TO WAIT.....
DA (DASH)
MM...
PRINCESS !?
!?
NOT AGAIN!
AND...
DAAAA (DAAAASH)

THE SECOND BOWL...
らーめん桔梗ロ
BANNER: KIKYOUYA RAMEN
WELCO...
OHH, AN-SAN.
H—!
HELLO!


ONE SHIO RAMEN, ORDER UP—!
AH!
YES.
SAME HERE, PLEASE!
ARE YOU HERE ALONE, TAKERU-DONO?
WHERE'S POPS?
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
I'LL HAVE THE CHA-SHUU-MEN.
APPARENTLY HE THREW OUT HIS BACK...



BANNER: KIKYOUYA RAMEN
I JUST HAPPENED TO DROP BY THIS SHOP ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO...
UMM... DO YOU NEED A HAND?
.....

GASHAN (SMASH)
THE SIXTH ONE TODAY.
I'M SO SORRY!
NOT AGAIN...
AH! DON'T WORRY ABOUT CLEANING IT UP...
AND EVER SINCE, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO STAY AWAY...
I!
OH, NO. I'M FINE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, ARE YOU HURT?
YOU DIDN'T CUT YOURSELF ON THE SHARDS?
ALL THE TIME...
I'M GLAD.
GOOD.
PHEW.

LOOKIN' FER A FIGHT, YA OLD FART?
PARDON ME.
HA HA HA!
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE ACTUALLY HELPING OR CAUSING MORE WORK...
WHOO, BOY.
No one is perfect.
So don't let it get to you.....
I WANTED TO BE WITH HIM EVERY WAKING MOMENT...
ALWAYS...

TAKERU-DONO IS SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD, TWO YEARS MY SENIOR.
I'M LEAVING THE SIGN OUT BAAAACK!
!
AND OCCASIONALLY WORKS PART-TIME AT KIKYOUYA.
POPPPS! YOU UUUP!?
POPS!?
HE'S KIND AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD.
DA (DASH)
KOFF! KOFF! KOFF!
AW Hi!]
THE GUYS FROM NISHINO-GUMI KEEP COMING AND HARASSING ME ABOUT PAYING SOME LOCATION FEE.
HA-HA-HA! EH-HEH-
THAT'S WHY YOU WERE FIGHTING?
WHO WAS THAT JUST NOW...?

I'M SURE...
...THAT HE'D HATE ME IF HE KNEW I WAS THE DAUGHTER OF A YAKUZA...
FIGHTING ISN'T GOOD.
AND HE REALLY HATES FIGHTING.
I SHOULD BE GOING NOW.
SEE YOU LATER.
SO...
OH? GOING HOME SO SOON?
AH.
...I'VE SECRETLY LOVED HIM THIS WHOLE TIME.

BUT...
I'LL WALK YOU HOME.
PART WAY.
LOOK AT ALL THE STARS!
AH!
...I HAVE THE FAMILY TO THINK OF.
SOON...

SOON, I'LL HAVE TO GIVE HIM UP...
T...
TAKERU-DONO.
HM?
U-UMM...
I...
I'M GETTING MARRIED, SO...
AH... UM... THE REAL REASON I STOPPED BY TO-DAY...
...WAS TO SAY GOOD-BYE...
...I'M S...
AN-SAN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
G-GOMEN-
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE.

Y-YOU CAN DROP ME OFF AROUND HERE.
I'LL BE FINE...
...
THAT'S TOO BAD.
I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE TRAIN STATION OVER THERE THEN.
.....
SO CUTE

!
OH...
RIGHT, RIGHT.
I GOT PASSES TO THE POOL FROM A CUSTOMER EARLIER.
IT'S CHEAP COMPENSATION FOR WORKING TODAY. BUT...
...WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?
WHAT...

WHAT SHOULD I DO—...!?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW BATHING SUIT?
EH?
UM, YEAH, I GUESS SO...
HOW NICE! GOING SOMEWHERE WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?
WELL, THIS STYLE IS PRETTY POPULAR THIS YEAR, AND...

I THINK YOUR BOYFRIEND WOULD LIKE THIS ONE TOO!
OOH...
ISN'T IT JUST TOO CUTE?
NOOO! SHE AIN'T HEEERE!
EEEEH? WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
WAAAH!
HMMM...
GUYS...
SORRY...
I'M SO SORRY, GUYS...
JUST ONE MORE DAY..
I JUST NEED ONE MORE DAY..

YAY!
WOW!
AH!
TA (DASH)
AN-SAN. IT'S PRETTY DEEP OVER THERE, ARE YOU OK—
BUKU
BUKU (GLUB)
BUKU
AN-SAN, YOU CAN'T SWIM, CAN YOU?
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME SOONER...
KOFF!
KOFF!
KOFF!

I'M SORRY.
KOFF! KOFF!
I'VE ACTUALLY NEVER BEEN TO A PLACE LIKE THIS BEFORE...
EH?
MY FATHER WAS VERY STRICT...
A LITTLE ECCENTRIC TOO...
OVER HERE.

KIDDIE POOL
THEN LET'S SWIM IN HERE.
JUST FOR TODAY...

AFTER TODAY...
IT'LL ALL BE OVER—...
DO YOU WANT SOME RAMEN BEFORE WE GO?
OKAY.

I TOLD YA TO GET THE HELL OUT, YA ASS-HOLE!
!
GO HOME!
GRR
I'M NOT PAYIN' YOU NO LOCATION FEE OR WHAT-EVER!
EVENIN', POP—
YA GOT SPUNK, OLD MAN, I'LL GIVE YA THAT.
BUT DISTRICT 1'S OUR TURF.
HA-HA... GUESS IT'S THE SAME AS THOSE GUYS.
AW YEAH, THEM, THE GUYS FROM AYA-NOKOUJI-GUMI.
!
I HEAR THE BOSS TURNED TAIL AND RAN OUT ON 'EM.
THAT FAMILY'S PROLLY OUT FOR THE COUNT.
AH-HA-HA!
OUGHTA BE STARTIN' ABOUT NOW, RIGHT?
THEY BEEN OUTTA LINE LATELY, SO WORD IS THEY'RE GONNA GET TAKEN DOWN.

THE TAKE-DOWN.
IS THAT RIGHT?
HUH?
I'M ASKIN' YOU IF IT'S TRUE.
GUI (YANK)
HUUH?
AND WHO THE HELL'RE YOU?
GA (GRAB)
AN-SAN...

DOOO (SLAM)
WH-WHY, YOU...
WHO ARE YOU!?
!
TAKERU-DONO...
I AM...
—I...
I'M...

...AYANO-KOUJI-GUMI.
DAUGHTER OF THE THIRD-GENERATION BOSS...
!
I'M SO SORRY, TAKERU-DONO...
I...
I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO HATE ME, SO THIS WHOLE TIME...
...I'VE KEPT MY TRUE IDENTITY A SECRET FROM YOU.
BUT...
...I WON'T CAUSE YOU ANY MORE TROUBLE AFTER TODAY.
THIS IS GOOD-BYE.

TAKE CARE!
AN-SAN...!
UGH...
AUGH...
OOF...

TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH, HMM?
JA (GRIND)
MISS PRINCESS...
TO CUT TO THE CHASE...
YOUR TERRI-TORY.
I'D LIKE YOU TO HAND IT OVER.
.....
WHAT IF I REFUSE?

I WONDER HOW LONG YOU'LL LAST ALL BY YOUR LONESOME...?
ZURA... (CROWD...)
...NISHINO?
STILL A COWARD, HUH...
!
ACTING UP IN SOMEONE ELSE'S TERRI-TORY...
TA...
THE FUCK ARE YOU...

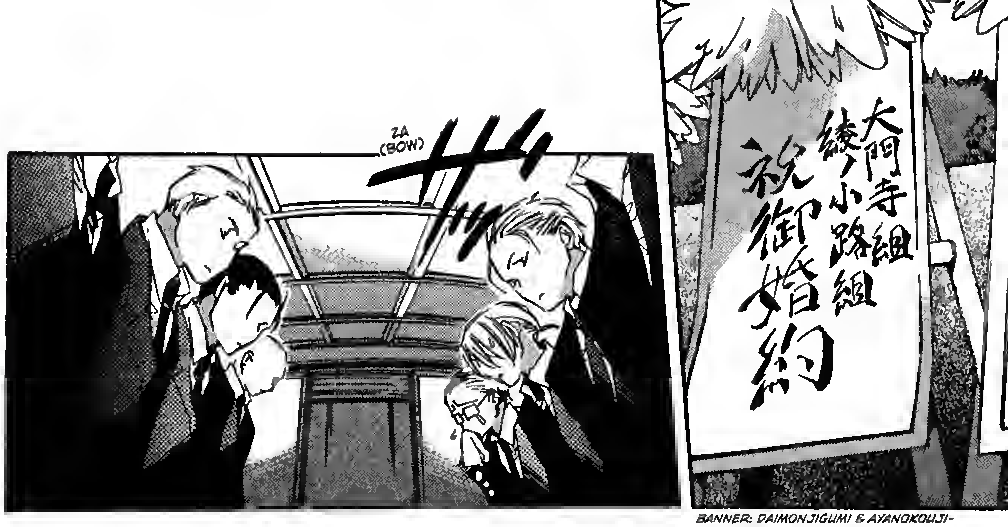
TAKE...
RU?
...THE PERSON I'M SUPPOSED TO MARRY...!?
EH...?
DAIMON-JIGUMI? DAIMONJI-GUMI, AS IN...
NOO, WELL, YOU SEE... WE WERE JUST...
IF IT ISN'T THE YOUNG HEIR TO THE DAIMONJI-GUMI...
M... MY, MY...
ZAWA (GUZZ)
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

I HOPE YOU'RE READY TO GET WHAT'S COMIN' TO YOU.
I DON'T WANNA HEAR YOUR EXCUSES.
IT'S TAKERU-DONO...?
RAAAAGH!
DAMMIT! GET HIM!
NO WAY—...

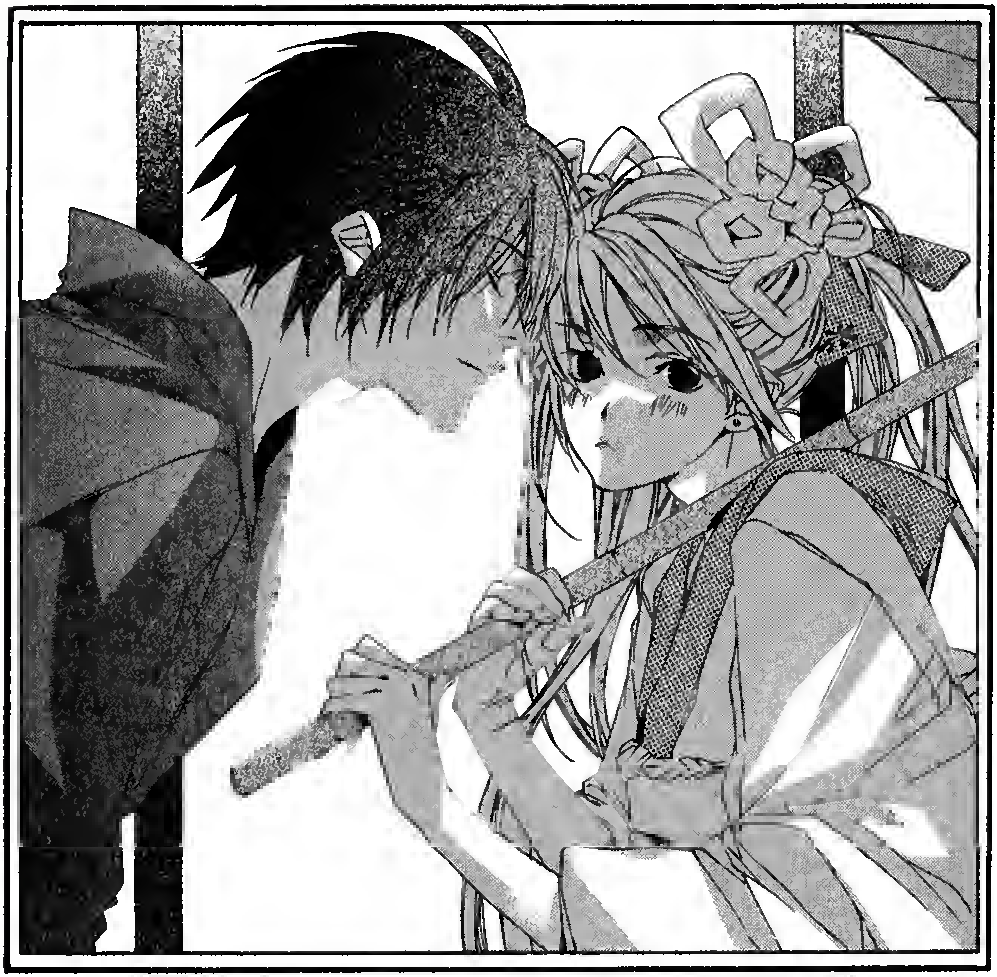
GUYS WHO PICK HALF-ASSED FIGHTS ARE ONE OF THE THINGS I HATE THE MOST, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.
R...
—...
RE-TREAT!
KYAAAH!
OWAAAH!

AN-SAN, ARE YOU HURT?
BIKU (SOLID)
ズ
BUN (SHAKE)
ふるふる
BUN
.....
YOU DIDN'T TAKE A LOOK...
...AT THE MATCH-MAKER'S PHOTOS?
I SEE...
NO...
NO...
KOKU
KOKU
KOKU (NOD)
I'M SO SORRY.

.....
I'M PATHETIC...
JUST BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO TELL YOU HOW I FEEL...
...I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MY POSITION.
I'M SORRY TOO...

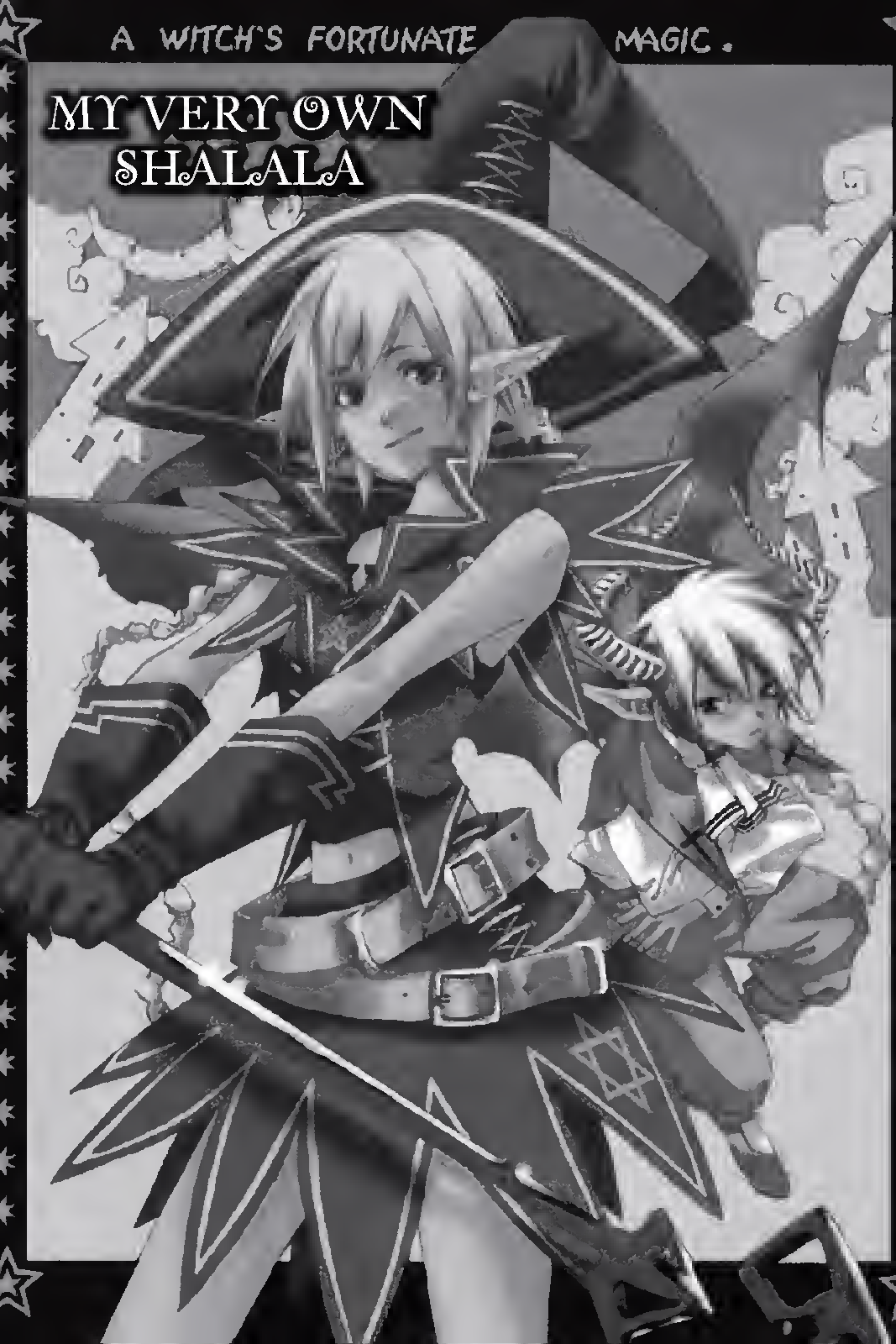


BANNER: DAIMONJIGUMI & AYANOKOUJI-GUMI ENGAGEMENT PARTY



The Princess of Kikyouya in District 1 ◀◀◀ END.

MY VERY OWN SHALALA



BUSU
BUSU
SHA-LALA! EMER-GENCY!
BUSU
BUSU (SPUTTER)
THERE'S SMOKE COMING OUT THE BACK END OF YOUR BROOM!
I KNOW! BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE MAGIC LEFT!
KYAAAAAH!!
THAT'S RIGHT...
I'M A FAILURE OF A WITCH.
AAAAAH

OUCH—...
NON-BURNABLE TRASH.
THAT'S BECAUSE MY DAD WAS A HUMAN...
DITSY AS ALWAYS.
EVER SINCE I WAS BORN, I'VE ONLY HAD HALF THE MAGIC OF YOUR AVERAGE WITCH.
IF YOU INSIST ON CONTINUING ON LIKE THIS, MISTRESS, I'LL BECOME AN EMBARRASSMENT TO THE BAT COMMUNITY.
YOU REALLY HAVE TO GET IT TOGETHER, OR ELSE.
SORRY, JIROU-KUN...
AND THEY BLAMED ME TOO...
...WERE UN-THINKABLY... TERRIFYING CREATURES.
BUT EVERY-ONE BLAMED MY MOM, SAYING THAT HU-MANS...

I MUST SAY...
...I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW DIRTY THE HUMAN WORLD IS.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
TRASH.
TRASH.
NO!
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED.
I'M NOT GOING HOME UNTIL I GET THE "TEARS OF A YOUNG HUMAN BOY."
TO BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED WITCH...
OW.....
MUKU (RISE)
!
AH.

A HUMAN BOY!
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
HAH!
NICE TO MEET YOU.
I AM THE WITCH SHALALA.
WITCH'S GREETING
CHU

DON'T YOU REMEMBER THE WITCH HUNTS OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY!?
MORE-OVER!
ALTHOUGH THE "TEARS OF A YOUNG HUMAN BOY" HAVE THE POWER TO INCREASE YOUR MAGIC...
...THERE ARE STILL RULES!
SZA (SWOOSH)
IDIOT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING GOING AROUND REVEALING YOUR IDENTITY!?
JIROU-KUN!?
THEY WON'T GIVE YOU ANY POWER UNLESS...
...THEY'RE FROM THE FIRST BOY THAT YOU SEE.
EH? THEN I HAVE TO GET THEM FROM THAT BOY...?
FOR RIGHT NOW, WE'LL REGROUP AND TRY AGAIN LATER.
BASA (FLAP)
O...
OKAY...
WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT...?

LOOK! THERE!
IT'S HIM! THAT BOY FROM BEFORE!
UWAAH...
SO MANY HUMANS.....
Y-YEAH...
SHA-LALA.
SU (RISE)
KOOOO (WAFT)
Use thine powers to conceal mine true form...

BASHIKOO (VWOOSH)
I summon the spirit of smoke!
SHUUU (FWOOSH)

!!!
?
FWHA
!?
WHATEVER. IN YOUR CASE, YOUR TRANSFORMATION ONLY LASTS FOR HALF A DAY SO YOU'D BETTER BE CARE...
I LOOK LIKE A HUMAN BOY, RIGHT?
JIROU-KUN, LOOK, LOOK!
YAY! I DID IT!
NICE TO MEET YOU, HELLO.
CHU.
WITCH'S GREETING AGAIN.
PLEASE BE MY FRIEND.
.....
ARE YOU MENTALLY CHALLENGED OR SOME-THING?
AAAAH! WEIRDO! NOO!
GIRLS SCREAMING.

R-RIGHT...
AND YOU CAN'T GO AROUND KISSING HANDS.
BUT THAT'S THE PROPER GREETING WHERE I COME FROM...
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE...STAY AWAY FROM UENO.
ARE YOU A TRANSFER STUDENT?
COME HANG OUT WITH US.
AH!
UENO-SAN.
AND HE'S ALWAYS GOT SHIFTY GUYS FOLLOWING HIM AROUND...
HE'S SUUUPER ANTI-SOCIAL ...
!SUUUP!
MORNIN'!
YO.
HEYA.
KI (GLARE)
...NO MATTER WHAT, I'M GOING TO BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED WITCH.
B-BUT...
EEP!
TH-THERE HE IS.
THEY WERE RIGHT.
SO HE'S THE LEADER...
...OF A GANG OF BAD GUYS.....

I'LL MAKE THAT UENO CRY, WHATEVER IT TAKES!!
GON (GONK)
SFX: DOKU (GLUB) DOKU DOKU
HOT MUSTARD
HEE HEE HEE!
BUT EVEN AFTER DROPPING A BUCKET ON HIS HEAD.....
OW, THAT HURT...
AH.
KARAN (CLANG)
PUTTING HOT MUSTARD IN HIS TEA...
THAT WAS GOOD.
GUBIBIII (CHUG)
NO SENSE OF TASTE.

GEEZ ...
NOTHING'S WORKING...
WELL, I WASN'T EXPECTING MUCH ANYWAY.
OF COURSE HE WOULDN'T CRY...
WHAT'S THIS...?
WOOW.....
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE.....
SU CREACHO

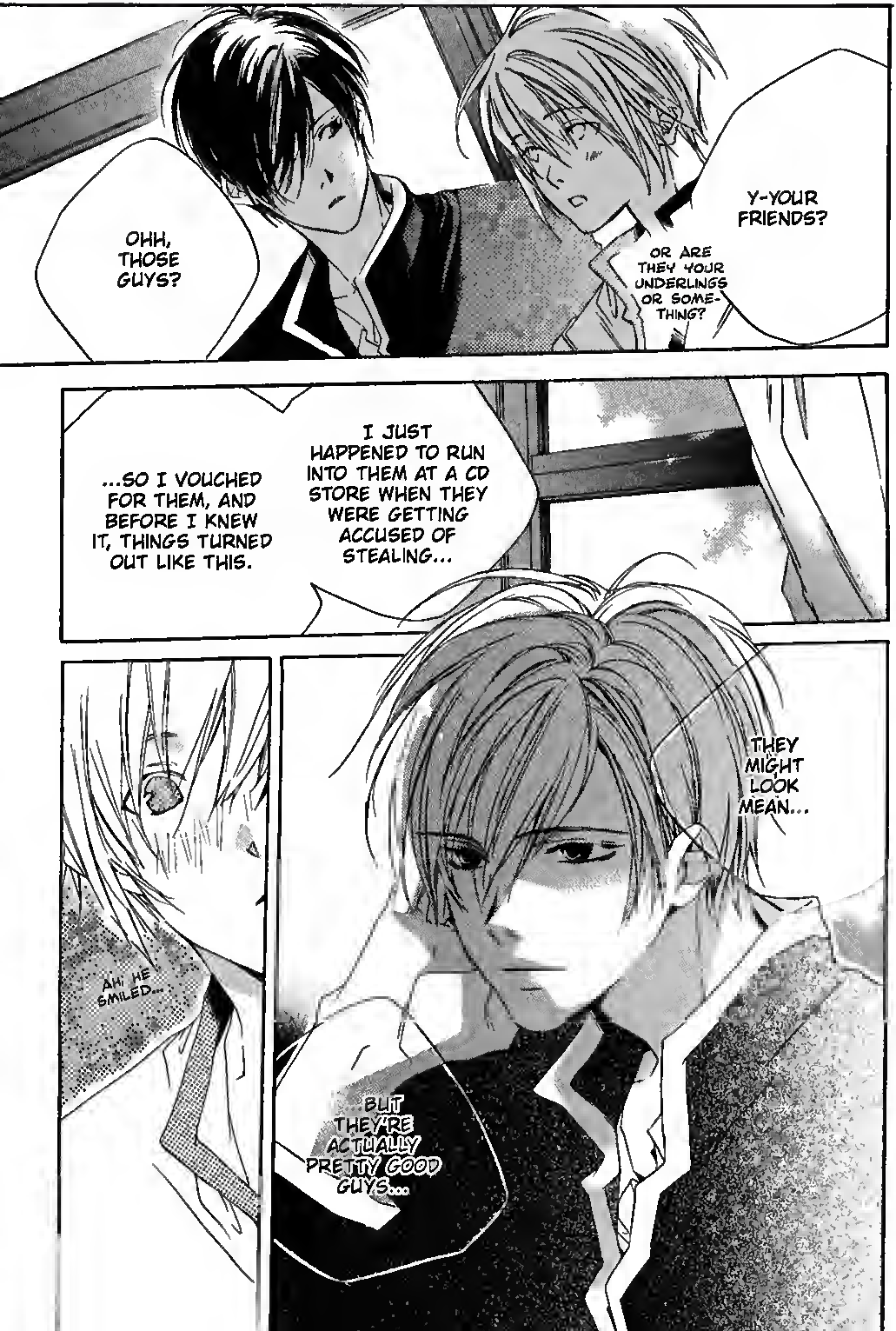
UENO.
I'M S-SORRY...
DON'T GO AROUND LOOKING AT OTHER PEOPLE'S STUFF.
UH...
UMM...
BY ANY CHANCE, DID YOU DRAW THAT PICTURE, UENO?
.....
WHAT'S IT TO YOU?
IT REALLY IS AWESOME! I HAD NO IDEA YOU COULD DRAW SUCH AMAZING PICTURES...
AWE-SOME!

I'M TOTALLY BLOWN AWAY.....
EH?
..... YOU CAN HAVE IT.
WHATEVER...
HUH ...?
A- ARE YOU SURE ?
THANK YOU...
WOW...

THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL A TERRIFYING HUMAN BEING .....?
DO YOU DRAW A LOT, UENO?
IT'S NOT LIKE I DO IT ALL THE TIME.
I KILL TIME IN THE ART ROOM ONCE IN A WHILE, THAT'S ALL.
WAKU
..... DOES THAT MEAN YOU HAVE MORE PICTURES IN THE ART ROOM?
WAKU (EXCITED)
.....
LET ME SEE! LET ME SEE! LET ME SEE!
WHAT'S IT TO Y—

UWAH—... THESE ARE AMAZING!
YOU'RE REALLY, REALLY GOOD, UENO...
SIGN: ART ROOM
.....

HUH?
HE'S EMBARRASSED.....
OH, I GET IT. HIS BEING ANTISOCIAL...
N-NOTHING.
IT'S NOTHING.
HM.
WHAT?
...IS JUST HIS WAY OF COVERING UP HIS AWKWARDNESS...
DON (BANG)
DON
BYE-BYE.
YUP.
I THINK THEY'RE SAYING, "UENO-SAN, YOU'RE PLAYING HOOKY TOO?"
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
YO.
PAN (SLAP)


Y-YOUR FRIENDS?
OR ARE THEY YOUR UNDERLINGS OR SOMETHING?
OHH, THOSE GUYS?
I JUST HAPPENED TO RUN INTO THEM AT A CD STORE WHEN THEY WERE GETTING ACCUSED OF STEALING...
...SO I VOUCHED FOR THEM, AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, THINGS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.
THEY MIGHT LOOK MEAN...
BUT THEY'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD GUYS...
AH! HE SMILED...

BUT YOU JUST TRANSFERRED, SO YOU PROBABLY DON'T WANT EVERYONE TO BE SCARED OF YOU, RIGHT?
IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULDN'T HANG OUT WITH ME.
..... HENO...
...ISN'T SCARY AT ALL.
Shalala! Shalala!
!
The spell is breaking!!
EH!? ALREADY?
SHURURU (SHIFT...)

TA (DASH)
I GOTTA RUN!
S—! SORRY, UENO.
O-OH NO!
I'M GOING TO CHANGE BACK!!
EH...?
THE CLEANING LADY.
EH...? H-HEY... IN FRONT OF Y—
DON (WHAM)
!
ARE YOU .....
WAI...
GASSHAAAN (CRASH)

...OKAY.....
Y.....
YOU'RE...
FROM BEFORE...
GAH!
BESHI
CWHACK!

S-SORRY, JIROU-KUN.
I MADE MORE TROUBLE FOR YOU AGAIN...
DOSA (THUD)
WHATEVER. WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH A COVER STORY FOR TODAY'S EVENTS FOR TOMORROW.
GOT THAT?
YEAH...
UM, I'M STILL AWAKE OVER HERE...

HOW OBVIOUS CAN YOU GET?
KOFF!
KOFF!
SA (HIDE)
WAAAAH! I KNEW IT! I JUST CAN'T FACE HIIIIM!

What's wrong, Shalala?
I GOT DRENCHED WITH WATER YESTERDAY.
Well... I think I caught a cold...
I can't do this ...
I feel faint...
KYAAAAH...!
!
ZAWA (MURMUR)
OMIGOSH, SENSEI! OUTSIDE THE WINDOW!
THE FISH FROM THE POND ARE SWIMMING IN MIDAIR!
WHAT THE!?
...THE AND... NEW KID'S OUT THERE TOO—!
WHAT'S GOING ON—!?

WAYA (CHATTER)
HEY! HEYYY! WHAT'S WRONG !?
HEY, CAN YOU HEAR MEEE!?
OH NO! HER MAGIC'S GOING HAY-WIRE...!
SHALALA!?
SA (HIDE)
MOVE.
I'LL TAKE HIM TO THE NURSE.
Z (LOOM)
GIRO (GLARE)

.....
DO.....
I MESSED UP AGAIN... EVERYONE THINKS I'M WEIRD...
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS. IT'S THE STORY OF MY LIFE...
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO.....?
BEFORE I KNOW IT, I END UP BEING HATED BY EVERY-ONE.....
IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
'COS I DON'T THINK YOU'RE WEIRD...

.....
WHAT IS IT, SHALALA?
.....
H..... HUMANS... AREN'T REALLY AS TERRIBLE AS THEY'RE ALWAYS MADE OUT TO BE...
.....
HRM.
IS THIS ABOUT UENO?
MOM WASN'T WRONG IN CHOOSING DAD.....

YOU'D BETTER NOT HAVE FORGOTTEN YOUR PURPOSE IN COMING HERE.
THOUGH YOUR MOTHER IS WAITING FOR YOU BACK IN OUR KING-DOM...
...AND EVEN I'M HELPING YOU OUT, WHAT ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT NOW!?
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FOCUS ON GETTING THE TEAR.
.....YEAH, OKAY.....

CUTTING CLASS?
UENO.....
WHAT-EVER.....
JIROU-KUN IS RIGHT.....
I CAME HERE TO BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED WITCH.
IF IT'S ABOUT YESTERDAY, I WOULDN'T STRESS OUT SO MUCH IF I WERE YOU.
I DON'T CARE WHO OR WHAT YOU MIGHT BE.....
ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?
GU (CLENCH)
I'VE GOT TO GET THE TEAR QUICK AND GO HOME!

I...
I HATE YOU!
WHO'D WANNA BE FRIENDS...
...WITH A DIRT-BAG LIKE YOU!?
HE'S GOING TO GET SO ANGRY.....
OH, OKAY.....
EH.....

EH... A TEAR...?
MUKA (GRUMPY)
HM
...YEAH...
NOW WE CAN GO HOME.
GOOD FOR YOU, SHALALA.

JIROU-KUN, NO!
BO (BURST)
YOU HAVE NO MORE USE FOR THIS PLACE, RIGHT?
I'LL GET RID OF HIM AND ALL THE REST TO-GETHER!
!
GOOO (FWOOM)
O-OH NO! EVERYONE IS—

UENO'S ARTWORK'LL GET BURNED UP!
DA (DASH)
HEYY, YOU! WHICH CLASS ARE YOU FROM?
YOU CAN'T GO IN THEEERE!
NOOOO!
ZA (SMOKE)

!
FOUND IT!
A—
ANYWAY, WE'RE GETTING OUTTA HERE!
—...
WELL, 'COS YOU...
UENO !?
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
IT'S DANGEROUS!
WHY, YOU...

YOU CAME TO GET ME...
WHATEVER.
!
ANYWAY, FORGET THAT.
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
YEAH.
BUT AFTER I PUT OUT THIS FIRE.
HUH?
BECAUSE JIROU-KUN CREATED THIS FIRE...
GU (SWOOSH)
...WATER CAN'T PUT IT OUT.

GOOOO (VWOOOH)
Guardian of Fire.....
—.....
Hear my plea...
Calm your raging powers and slip into a deep slumber.....

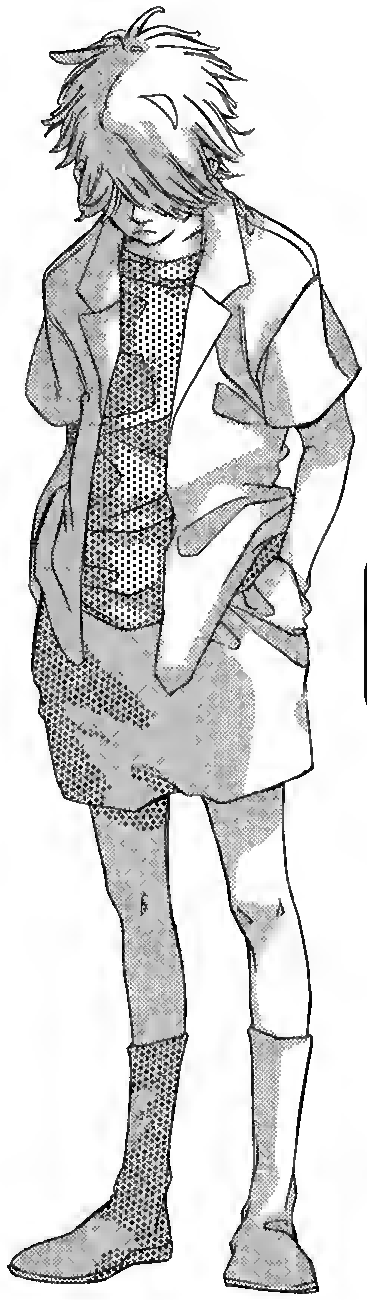
ZAN
GYAOOSHU

NO WAY AM I APOLOGIZING, GOT IT!?
WHAT-EVER...
HMMM? SO DEMONS REALLY DO EXIST...
WRONG!
I'M A BAT!
I'M SORRY, UENO.
WE LIED TO YOU...
PLUS... I...
...SAID SOME AWFUL THINGS TO YOU.

SEE, I...
I'M A FAILURE OF A WITCH...
I CAME HERE TO THE HUMAN WORLD IN SEARCH OF A "TEAR" .....
...TO BOOST MY MAGICAL POWERS .....
BUT.....
...I'M NOT GOING THROUGH WITH IT.
PAN
!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!?
AFTER YOU FINALLY HAD IT IN YOUR HANDS.....
I'M SORRY, JIROU-KUN, BUT.....
I'M.....
...GOING TO GIVE IT ONE MORE TRY ON MY OWN.
SO I CAN BECOME A GREAT WITCH.....

I'M GLAD THAT YOU WERE THE FIRST HUMAN I MET...
...UENO...
IF.....
...MAY I COME VISIT YOU AGAIN?
...AND WHEN I BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED WITCH...

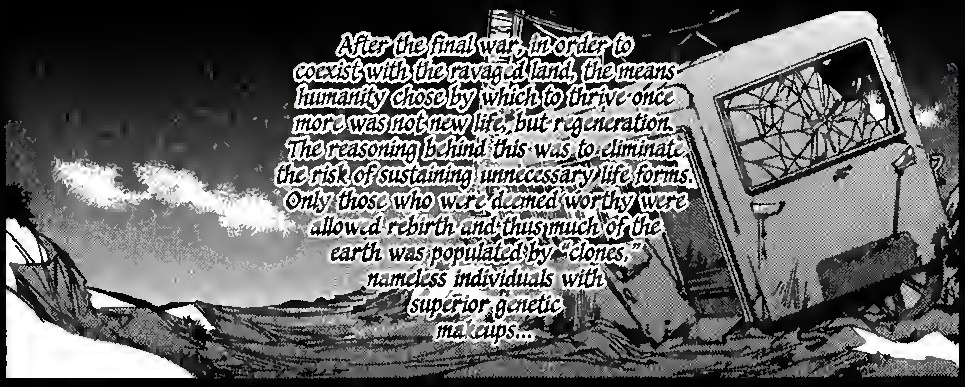
My Very Own Shalala <<<< END.



HE IS A ROBOT.

ROBOT

AND HE KNOWS THE AGONY OF WEARINESS AND SEPARATION.


After the final war, in order to coexist with the ravaged land, the means humanity chose by which to thrive once more was not new life, but regeneration. The reasoning behind this was to eliminate the risk of sustaining unnecessary life forms. Only those who were deemed worthy were allowed rebirth and thus much of the earth was populated by "clones," nameless individuals with superior genetic makeups...

The victim in the shadows was the android known as the "ROBOT."

...SINCE YOUR VERY EXISTENCE IS A THREAT TO US.
SO WE DID NOT ACTIVATE ONE PART OF HER BRAIN...
BUT SHE WAS BRILLIANT ENOUGH TO CREATE A ROBOT LIKE YOU.
...GOING FORWARD, SHE WILL CONTINUE TO BE RE-GENERATED THUS.
AS PROMISED.

A WORLD THAT KILLED HER...A WORLD WHERE SHE DOESN'T EXIST...
IF YOU DESTROY THE WORLD AGAIN...
...SHE WILL CEASE TO EXIST ONCE MORE...
SO PLEASE REMEMBER...
I DON'T CARE WHAT FORM SHE TAKES.
Across vast distances and through time unending, they keep watch over their "beloved ones," who are caught in an endless cycle of birth and death...

I AM "YAMATO."
AND, WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
WHY, HELLO THERE.
YAMATO?
YOU'RE AN "ELEPHANT," AND YOU'RE AN "ELEPHANT."
EVEN IF THERE ARE LOTS OF YOU, IT'S STILL MISTER OR MISS "ELEPHANT."
OHH, RIGHT. YOU'RE MISTER "ELEPHANT."
RIGHT, RIGHT, THAT'S HOW IT WAS. GOSH, IT NEARLY SLIPPED MY MIND.....

I'M CERTAIN YOU HAD A "NAME."
IN THIS DAY AND AGE, IT'S UNUSUAL SO I ALMOST FORGOT.....

I'M SORRY, BUT I'M GONNA HAVE TO CLOSE UP THE SHOP.
WELL, SEE, TRUTH IS...
IT'S DOWNRIGHT SHAMEFUL, BUT I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY YOUR WAGES.
I'M NOT SAYIN' THIS'LL MAKE US EVEN, BUT IN EXCHANGE...

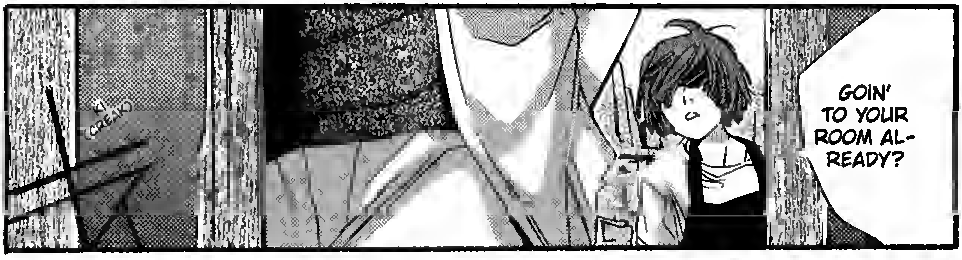
—.....
...ANYTHING IN THE WARE-HOUSE...
...ANY-THING THAT STRIKES YOUR FANCY...
...IT'S YOURS.....

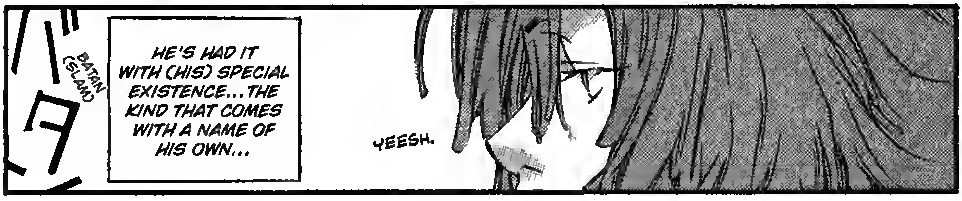
THE HECK, YAMATO.
DIDJA GET SACKED AGAIN?
...YOU'D FINALLY SETTLED IN SOME-WHERE.....
AND HERE I GOT TO THINKIN' ...
—SO.....
GOT THIS INSTEAD OF YOUR PAY, HMM .....?
AND ITS INSIDES DON'T SEEM ALL THAT COMPLEX EITHER. IT WON'T BRING IN ANY KINDA MONEY, I'M SURE...
HMM.
THIS HERE DOLL'S FILTHY...

TCH!
...RIGHT, YAMA—
OKAY, OKAY. SO YOU GOT NO INTENTION OF SELLIN'.
I GOTCHA.
SFX: GYUU (SQUEEZE)
BUT STILL.....
SO CUTE —!
AW GOSH!
IT'S THE SPITTIN' IMAGE OF HER AGAIN.

IT'S PROLLY BROKEN.
...WHO KNOWS...
...WHETHER OR NOT THIS ONE'LL MOVE *EITHER*?
—...
KATAN (KLUNK)
カタン
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT COLLECTIN' THAT STUFF ANYHOO?

YOU OUGHTA THINK ABOUT THROWIN' IN THE TOWEL ON THIS —!
IT'S NOT REAL MANLY, YA KNOW —!


GOIN' TO YOUR ROOM AL-READY?
A (FRIEND)

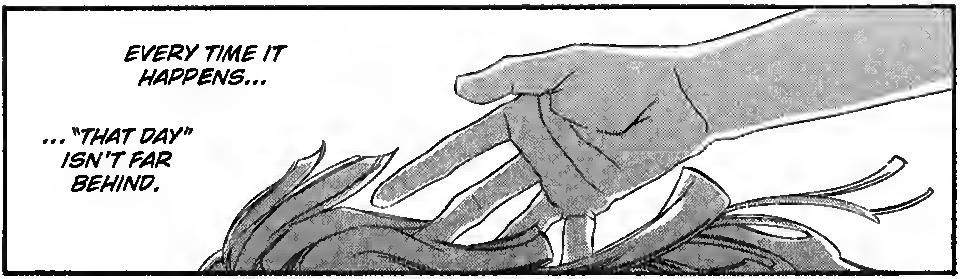

HE'S HAD IT WITH (HIS) SPECIAL EXISTENCE... THE KIND THAT COMES WITH A NAME OF HIS OWN...
BATAN (GUARD)
YEESH.

HE'D HAVE IT SO MUCH EASIER IF HE'D JUST CHUCK IT, BUT HE CAN'T EVEN GET THAT RIGHT.
THAT'S "YAMATO" FOR YOU.
...THE POOR KID.
...MEANS HAVIN' NOTHIN'.
'COS BEIN' "NORMAL" ...

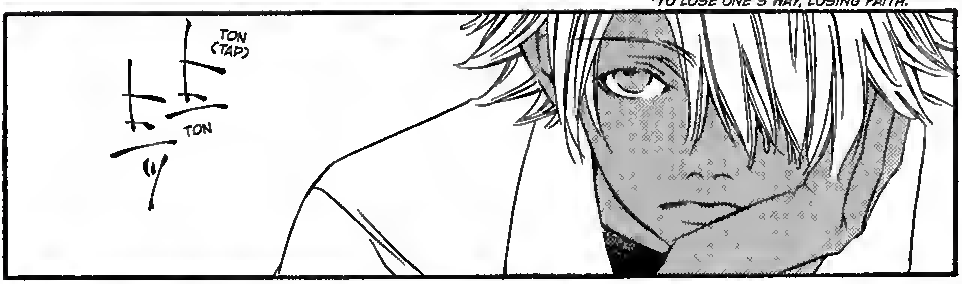
...THAT YOU CAN STICK OUT YOUR CHEST AND PROUDLY CALL YOUR VERY OWN.
NOT A SINGLE THING...
...THAT WAS THE KINDA WORLD WE WERE IN.
WHEN WE CAME TO...
KACHI (KLICK)
THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT GOES.
THINGS CONSIDERED UNNECESSARY DISAPPEARED AND WERE FORGOTTEN.
WHAT'S HERE NOW'S ONLY A MESS OF STUFF THAT LIVED A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.
GA (YAMMER)
GA
GA
GA
GA
GA

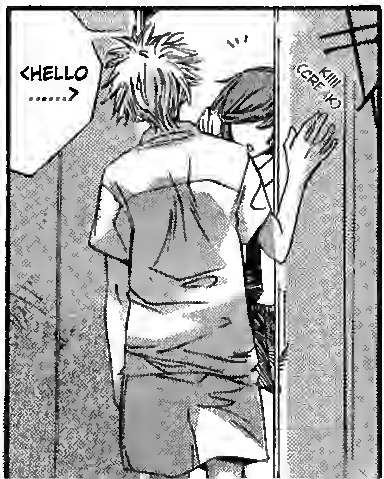
SFX: KATA (RATTLE) KATA KATA KATA KATA .

'COS...
...ALL THIS KINGDOM'S SET ON IS THE CREATION OF WORTH.
—.....
LATELY, THEY'VE BEEN GETTIN' WORSE AGAIN.
THIS GUY'S NIGHT-MARES. THAT IS



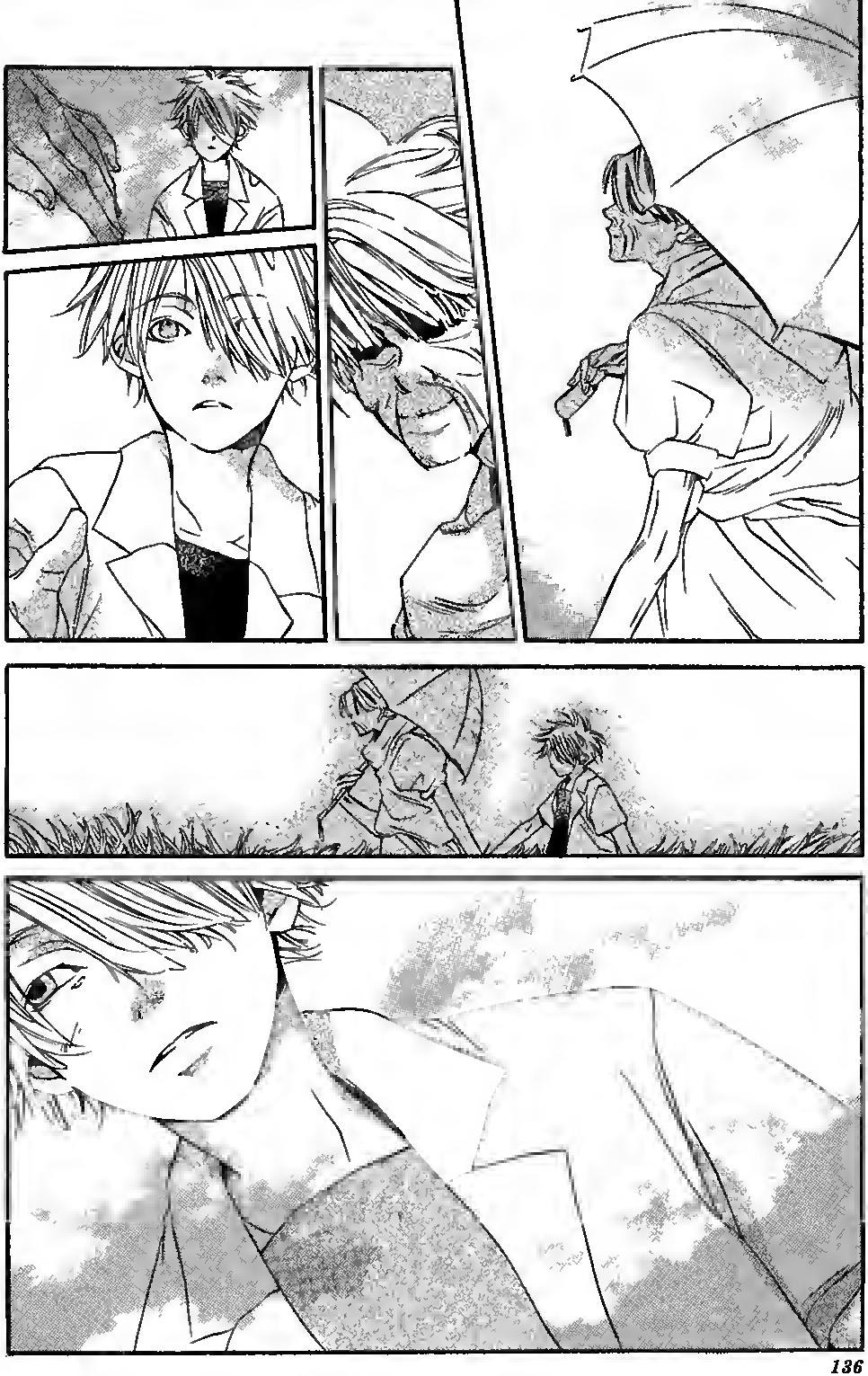
*TO LOSE ONE’S WAY, LOSING FAITH.





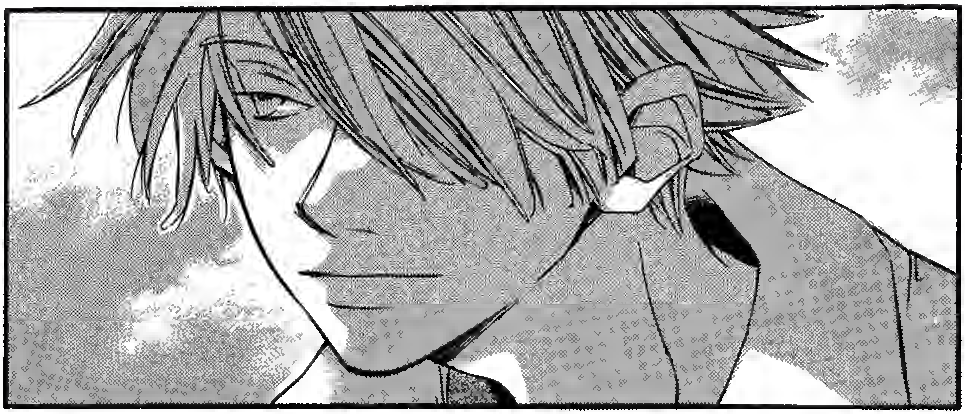
TO SCHOOL..
OR DO YOU WANNA GO TOO?
SFX: GU (TUG) GU GU
THEY'RE NOT ALL GLOOM 'N' DOOM LIKE YOU NOW!
LISTEN HERE! NORMAL GUYS ARE ALWAYS SMILIN' UP A STORM!
SMILE, WOULD YA!?
.....
FINE!
I'LL KEEP SMILIN' 'COS.....
AWW LORDY.. I'M TOO NICE.
TCH!
GROSS.

THAT WAY .....
TAKE HER WITH YA.
GO FOR A WALK.
SHE'S AWAKE NOW...
...GRAN IS.
...YOU GOT NOTHIN' TO COMPLAIN ABOUT, RIGHT?
...I HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE JUST BEIN' ME.
NOT IF YOU'RE WITH YOUR PRINCESS.

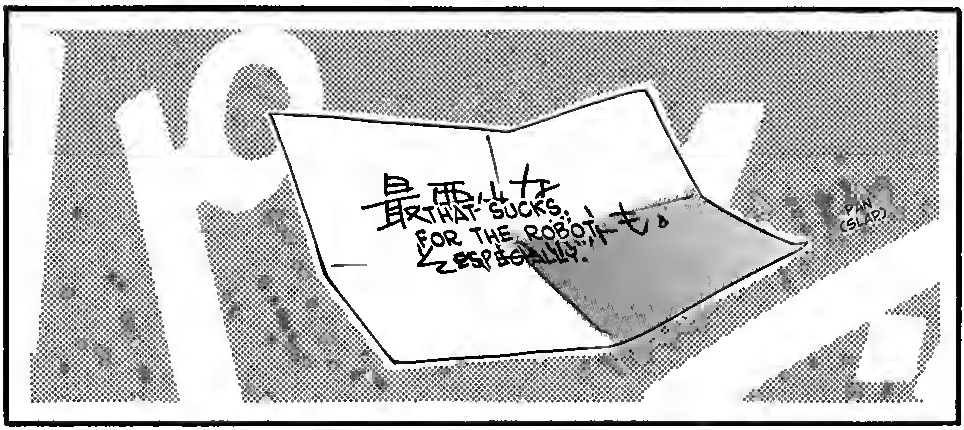


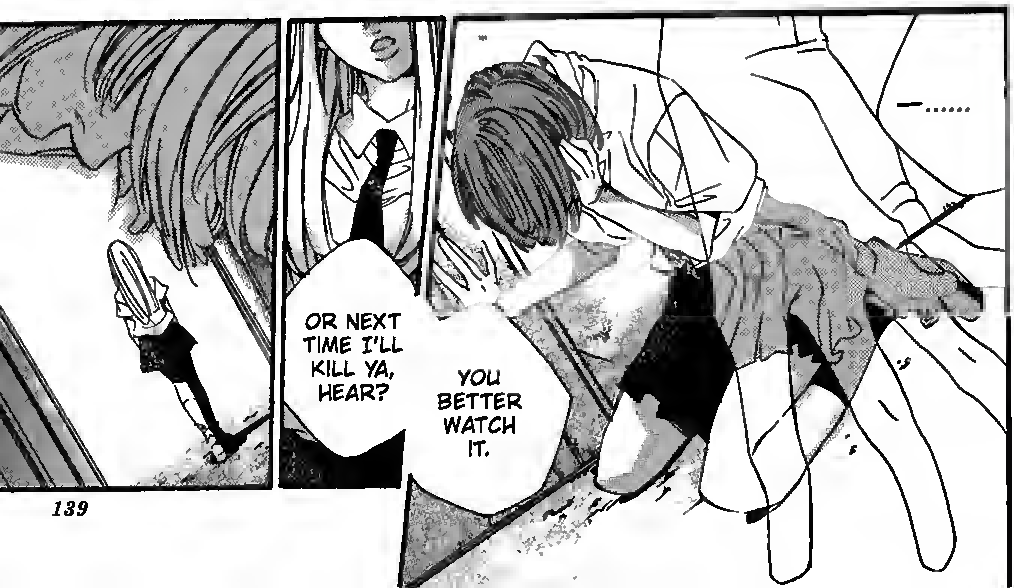
THESE DAYS...
...ALL THE KINGDOMS...
So, like, the Kingdoms givin' me an escort starting today. How cool is that!?
...SEE HUMAN BEIN'S AS TREASURES.
HHHHH
THOUGH THEY DON'T GO ABOUT IT ALL RANDOM LIKE, IT ALSO MAKES FOR MORE POINT-LESS TROUBLE.
HERE, AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD...
CREATED WHEN HALF OF OUR WORLD WAS BLASTED AWAY MANY MOONS AGO.....

I'M NEVER GONNA UNDER-STAND IT.
——…
LET'S GO HOME SOON.
THE BREEZE IS CHILLY.
—……

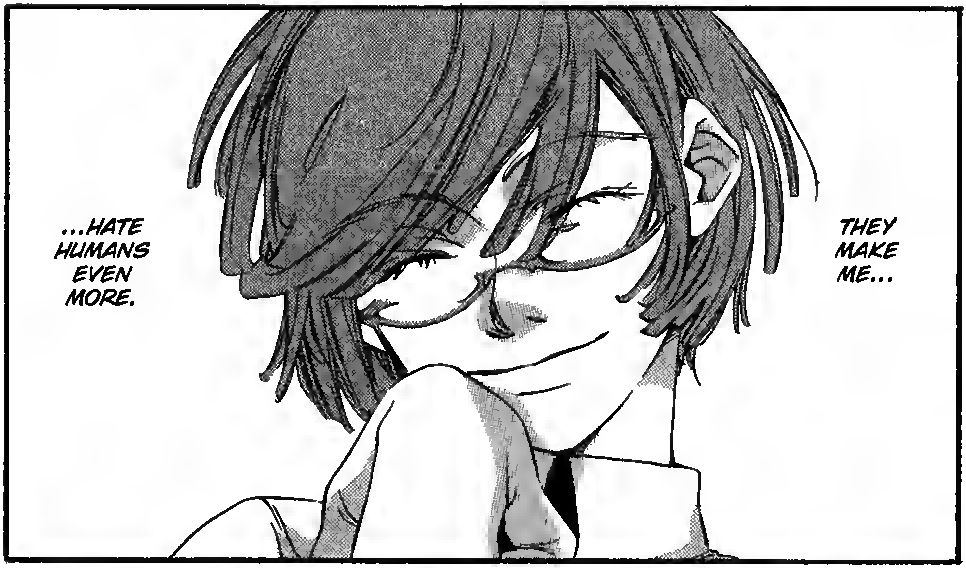


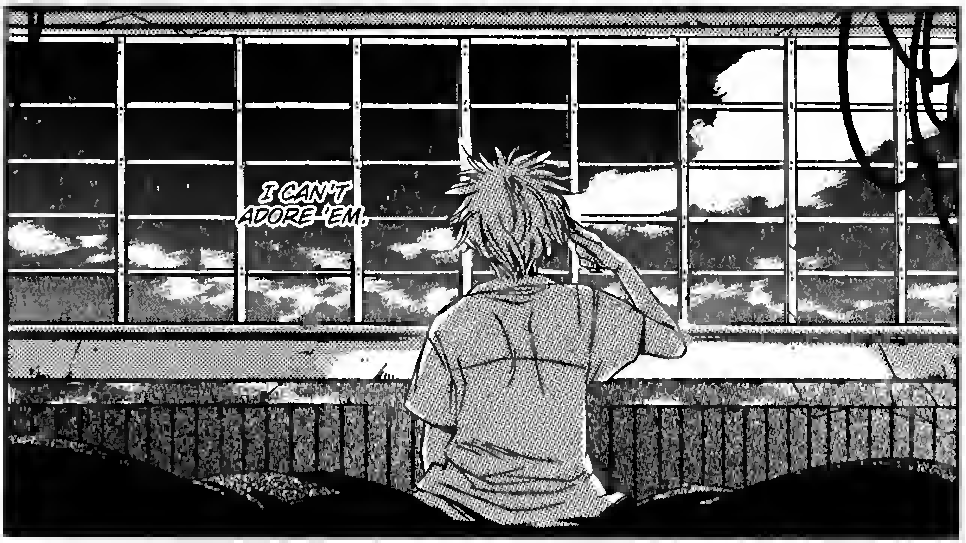
I'M NOTHIN' BUT A FOOL.

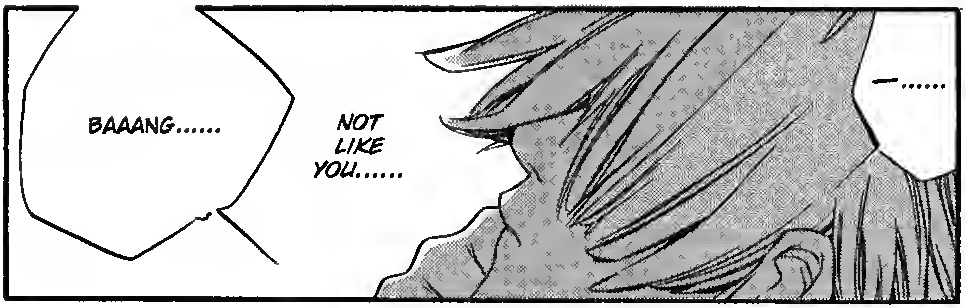




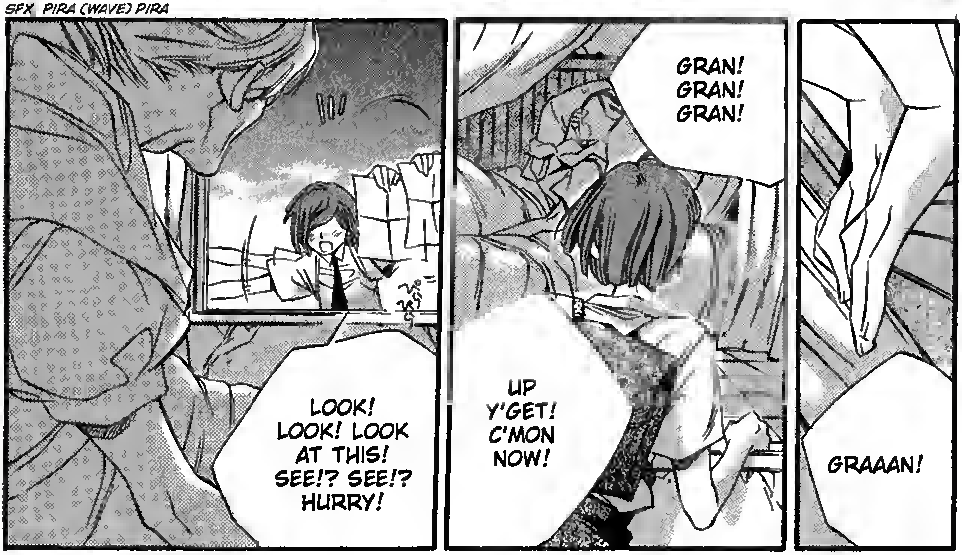
ISN'T IT ENOUGH FOR THIS PLANET,
TO BE SPINNIN' IN PEACE?
I LOVE PLACES WHERE PEOPLE GET TO-GETHER.
ESPECIALLY SCHOOLS...AND SCHOOLS...AND SCHOOLS AGAIN.
WHAT'S THIS ES-CORT?
WOOOW, I'M SOOO JEALOUS.
YEAH, WELL.
A ROBOT. I HEAR IT'S A TOTALLY INCREDIBLE ONE.
PROPER, WORTHY THINGS...
TO HER?
ARE THEY DUMMIES?
...FORCING WORTHLESS THINGS...
A ROBOT? WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
YEAH, RIGHT...?
THEY SHOULD JUST HURRY UP AND BREAK.


...HATE HUMANS EVEN MORE.
THEY MAKE ME...


I CAN'T ADORE 'EM.


BAAANG.....
NOT LIKE YOU.....
—.....

SFX: PIRA (WAVE) PIRA



SALE
CAKE
on't you
another pie
of cake?
NOOO MORE OF THIS PLAYIN' DEAD!
RIGHT. C'MON, UP, UP.
YOU, ME, 'N' GRAN.
THE THREE OF US.
WE'RE GOIN' ON A DATE.

GIRI (CLENCH)
GIRI
TRY TO AT LEAST DRESS UP A LI'L.
OR GRAN'LL START TO HATE'CHA!
TON (HOP)
SHE'S SURE NOT GONNA HATE IT, SO DON'T WORRY.
Y-YOUR UNIFORM OUGHTA BE A-OKAY, I'D SAY?
SHE SAID SHE LOVED IT, RIGHT?
DIDN'T SHE? WAY BACK WHEN .....?
SO! GO ON AND GET GUSSIED UP AND WAIT DOWN STAIRS
MY, THAT LOOKS PERFECT ON YOU!
YES..... PERFECT, YAMATO.....
— .....

You're the one .....
...who leaves me behind every time.....
STAY WITH ME FOREVER, OKAY?
STAY BY MY SIDE, OKAY?

GOSU (GONK)

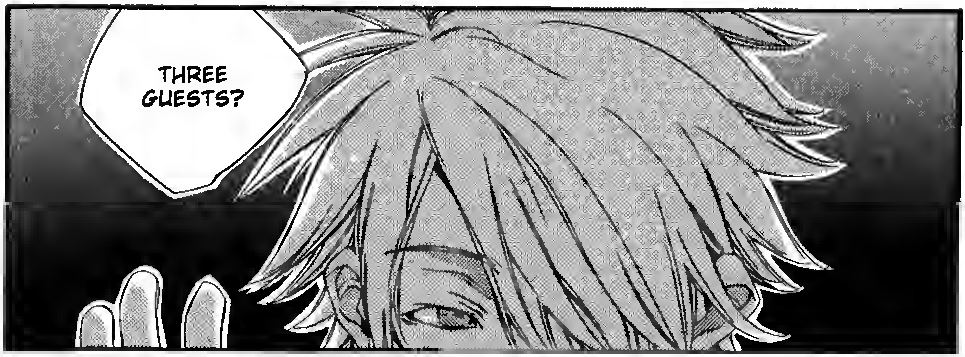
I CALLED YOU A BUNCHA TIMES!
BROUGHT IT ON YOURSELF, YOU DID!
SO THAT'S IT. GRAN AND I ARE GOIN' ON A DATE, JUST THE TWO OF US.
SO SEE YA, YAMATO-KUN.
WHADDAYA SAY, GRAN?
MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST DITCH THIS GUY AND GO ON OUR OWN.
HEH-HEH!
.....
HUUH?
THINK IT'S A JOKE, HUH?
YOU GOT A REAL PROBLEM, YA KNOW, BRO?
WAS THAT A SIGH I JUS' HEARD?
YOU'RE S'POSED TO TAKE THE BAIT!
SILLY ME.
NO, COURSE NOT.
HEW...
EVEN HE'LL COME A-RUNNIN' AFTER US...

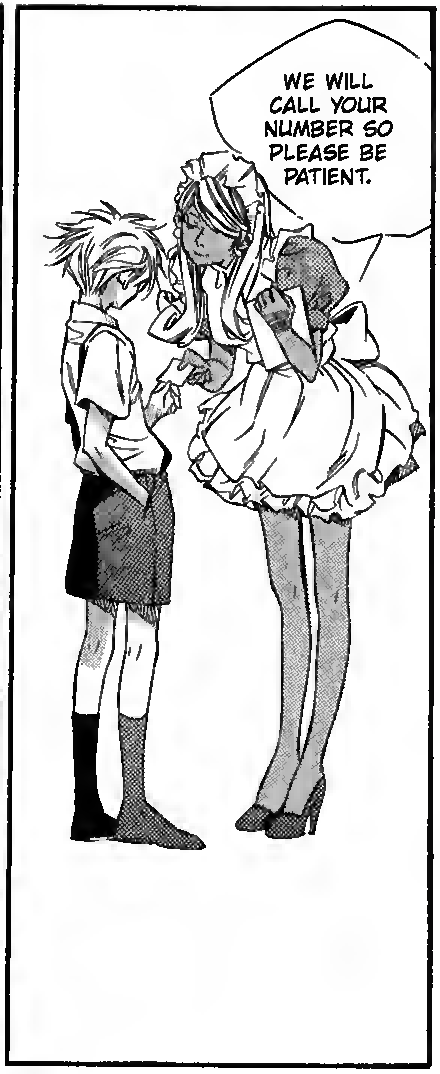
C'MON...
...LI'L PRINCE!
LET'S GO!

SFX: JAN (STRUM) JAKA JAKA
JAKA
JAN
JAN
JAKA
GEEZ!
AH.
AH.
LET'S GO IN ALREADY.....
YA DON'T HAFTA COPY 'EM.
'KAY, OKAY, OKAY.

I'LL EAT IT ALL BY MYSELF.
FINE!
BE THAT WAY.
—.....
ALL...

THEY SURE LIKE TO ROAM IN PACKS, HUH?
...ONLY FOLLOW THEIR BASEST INSTINCTS ...?
HOW CAN HUMAN BEINGS...
THAT'S ANNOY-ING.
—.....
YOU JUST THOUGHT, "SO DO YOU," DIDN'CHA?
I'LL BE HAVIN' FUN WITH GRAN.
ANYWAY, HOLLER WHEN WE'RE UP, 'KAY?
HOW MANY IN YOUR PARTY?


THREE GUESTS?


WE WILL CALL YOUR NUMBER SO PLEASE BE PATIENT.

GRAN, WHERE'D YOU GET TOOO?
I TAKE MY EYES OFFA HER FOR ONE SECOND, AND THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS.
TON (BUMP)
TA (DASH) TA TA TA
NOW I'VE DONE IT.....
OHH, SORRY.

PERV!
WHADDAYA THINK YER DOIN', PIP-SQUEAK?
HOW DARE YA! A MAIDEN'S BREASTS!!
BA!! (CLUTCH!)
I KNEW IT.....
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE ONES WITH SUCH PERSONALI-TIES.
SEE, WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
MISS SERIES 12 ROBOT...
...WHO ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
THIS IS WHY.....

THIS IS WHY I FIND HUMANS SO ANNOYING.

I'LL FIND HER.
FOR SURE.
YAMATO CAN JUST.....
YEP, YEP.
...GONNA KEEP RUNNING.
I'M JUST...

SORRY, KID.
GO PLAY SOME-WHERE ELSE.
!
YAMATO CAN JUST.....
TAN (JUMP)

...MINDLESSLY
JUST, JUST.....
YAMATO CAN JUST
DISAPPEAR.....

SEE, WE'RE FINE.
OR ELSE, MY WHOLE REASON FOR BEING ALL THIS TIME...
I'M ALL YOU NEED.....
...WOULDA AMOUNTED TO NOTHIN' AT ALL.
SO.....
...TO...
...TO...

WHERE'S YAMATO?
PLEASE LOOK AT ME——……
I DON'T WANNA BE MISERABLE.
THESE DAYS, UNLESS YOU'RE A REALLY HIGH-RANKING CLONE...
...THEY DON'T EVEN BAT AN EYELASH IF THERE'S A THREAT...
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
SINCE SHE'S WITH A GIRL LIKE HER……

—……
YOU'RE REALLY QUIET.
PLUS THIS GRANDMA...
...HAS A "NAME" ……
A NAME? WHAT'S THAT……?
YOU WERE SO LIVELY UNTIL JUST NOW.
THIS IS THE WAY IT GOES EVERY TIME.
OH, "NAME" ……
THIS TIME, I JUST GOTTA PUT A SMILE ON MY FACE...
...AND WAVE GOOD-BYE.
THAT THING EVERYONE HAD BACK IN THE OLD DAYS?

WHAT CAME BEFORE CAME BEFORE...
RIGHT.
TO HAVE A NAME MEANS TO BE INDEPENDENT AND TO HAVE BEEN "REGENERATED" CONTINUOUSLY.
I JUST GOTTA CLEAR MY HEAD...
NOT LIKE US, A FORCED JUMBLE OF GENETIC MISHMASH...
HEY.
BUT I KNOW THAT I CAN'T BLAME THEM EITHER.
SO...
...THE FACT STANDS.....
THAT'S WHY...

GAN GAMO
GAN
GAN
GAN
GA
GAN
GA
GAN
THAT, IT'S AN ANNOYING STORY...
YOU WOULD KNOW, RIGHT, SIS?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON WAS SHE?
.....
!
HATE TO LET'CHA DOWN, BUT...

...I'M JUST THE BABY-SITTER.
THAT'S ALL.
GAN

HE'LL BE TICKLED TO TELL Y'ALL ABOUT GRAN.
YOU SHOULD ASK HIM.
!?

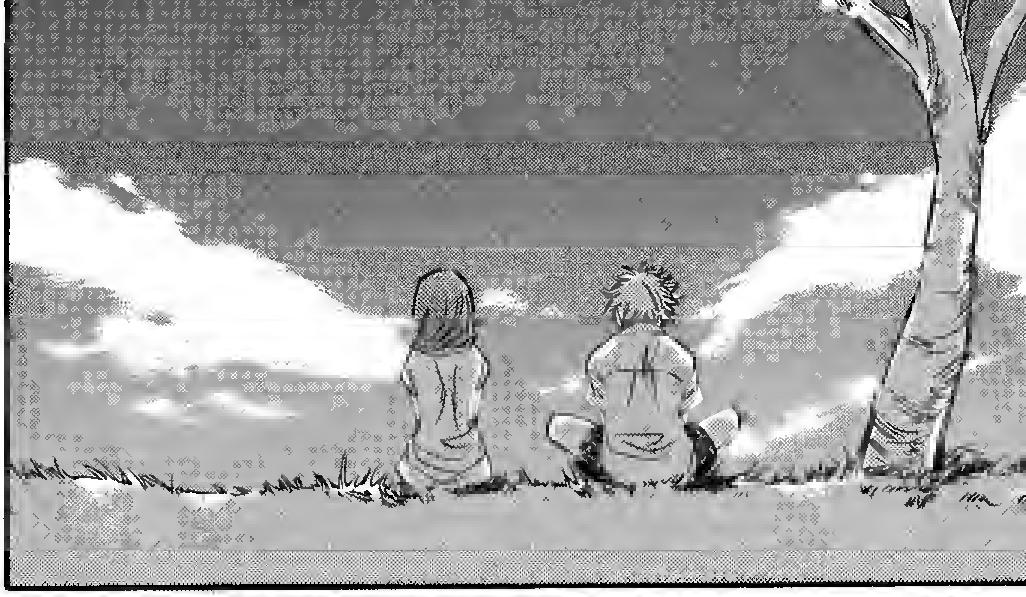
USUALLY, HE'S ALL SPACED OUT 'N' SUCH.
BUT WOULDJA JUST LOOK AT HIM GO NOW... SHEESH...
IS HE A ROBOT TOO?
HE'S UPPITY THOUGH AND EVEN HAS HIMSELF A "NAME."

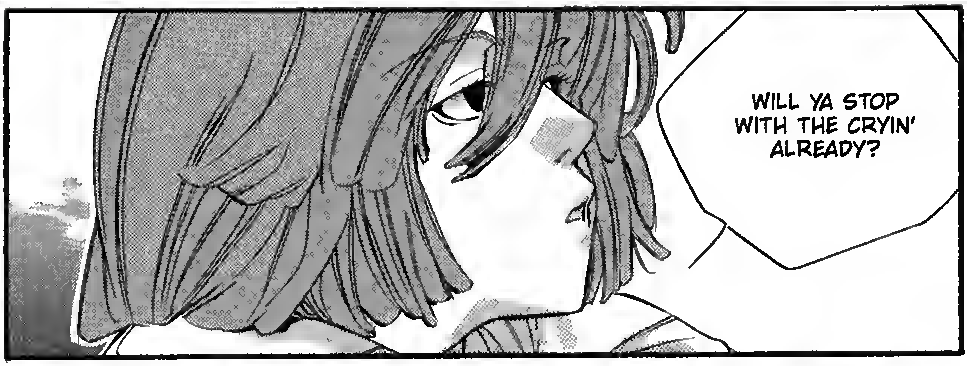
BUT IT'S AN EARLY PROTO-TYPE THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
THAT TYPE...
I'VE BEEN WONDERIN'.....
YOU LOOK YOUNG BUT SEEM REAL SMART.
KINDA LIKE GRAN .....
SHE WAS A SERIOUS CHILD PRODIGY TOO, GRAN WAS.

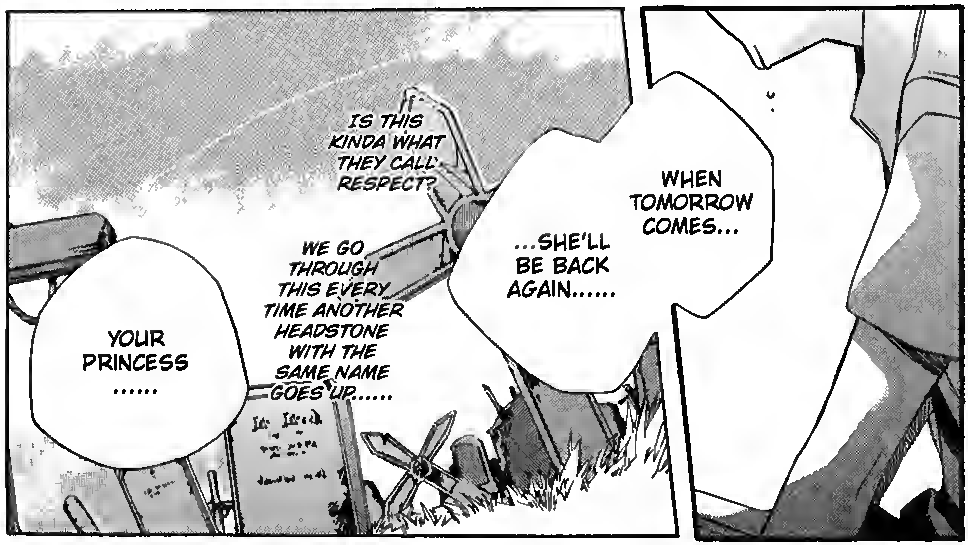
AND...
...SHE WENT AHEAD AND CREATED...
...HER VERY OWN...
...PRINCE.

GOOD MORNING.
LET'S GO NOW.

YA—.....
...ALMOST UP.
OUR NUMBER FOR CAKE IS...
YAMA...
TO—.....
—.....
THAT NIGHT, THE PRINCESS DIED.

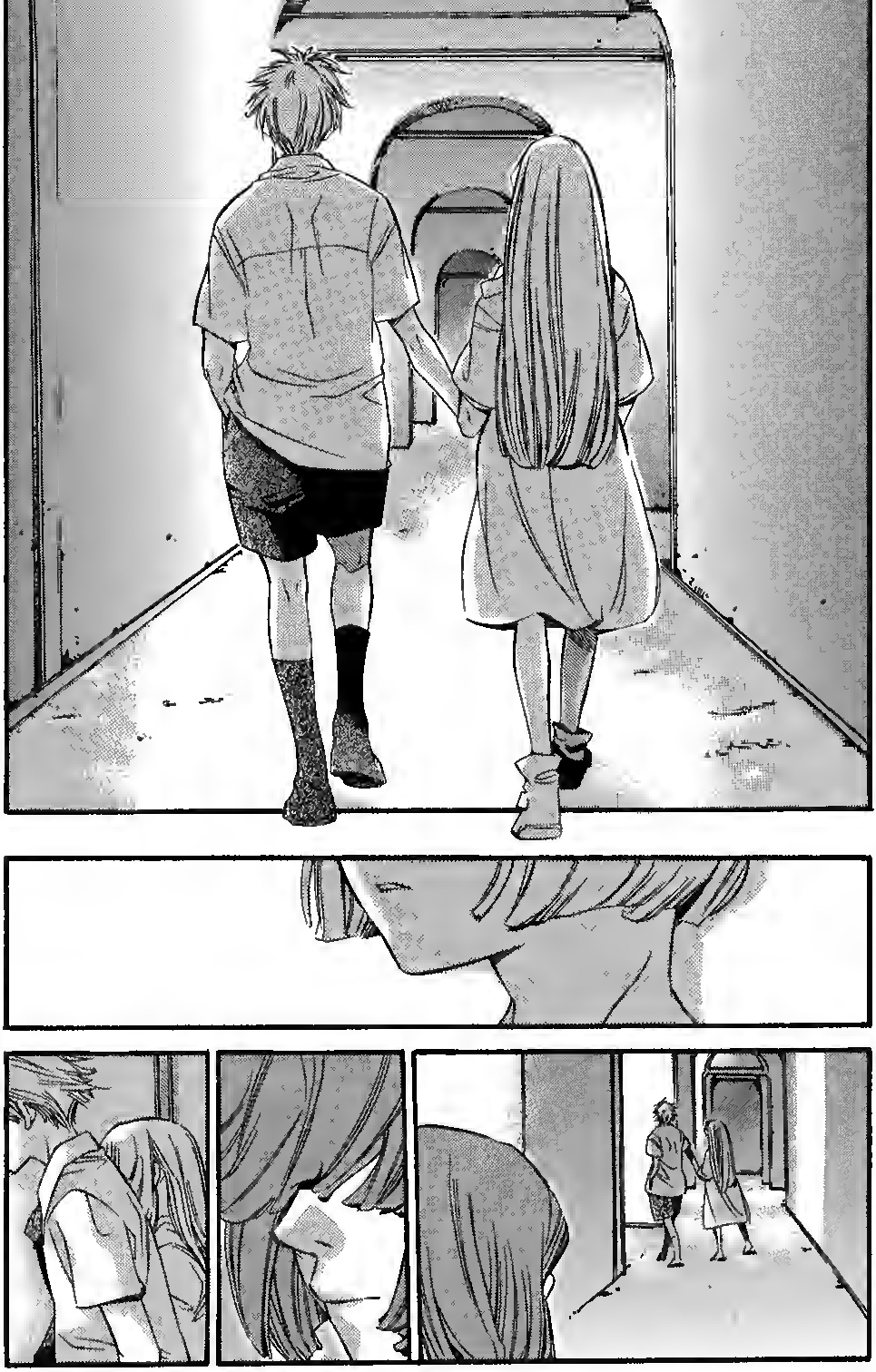



WILL YA STOP WITH THE CRYIN' ALREADY?


IS THIS KINDA WHAT THEY CALL RESPECT?
WE GO THROUGH THIS EVERY TIME ANOTHER HEADSTONE WITH THE SAME NAME GOES UP.....
YOUR PRINCESS .....
...SHE'LL BE BACK AGAIN.....
WHEN TOMORROW COMES...

THE YEARNIN' TO DIE BY HER SIDE.....
...AND THE HOPE OF LIVIN' TOGETH-ER.....
.....
WHA'CHA GOT THERE?
THE NUMBER TO THE CAKE SHOP?
THAT'S A DUMB THING TO HAVE.....
DON'T NEED THIS. GET RID OF OLD MEMO-RIES QUICK.
LIVE IN THE MOMENT.
POI (TOSS)
YOU REALLY AREN'T MANLY AT ALL, YA KNOW.
IN ANY CASE...

...THE HEART-BREAK NEVER DOES END...
TTJ...
J...
J.....
...IT'S JUST A STUPID LIVIN' DOLL.
...FROM THE KINGDOM I HATE.
A GIFT WITH STRINGS ATTACHED...

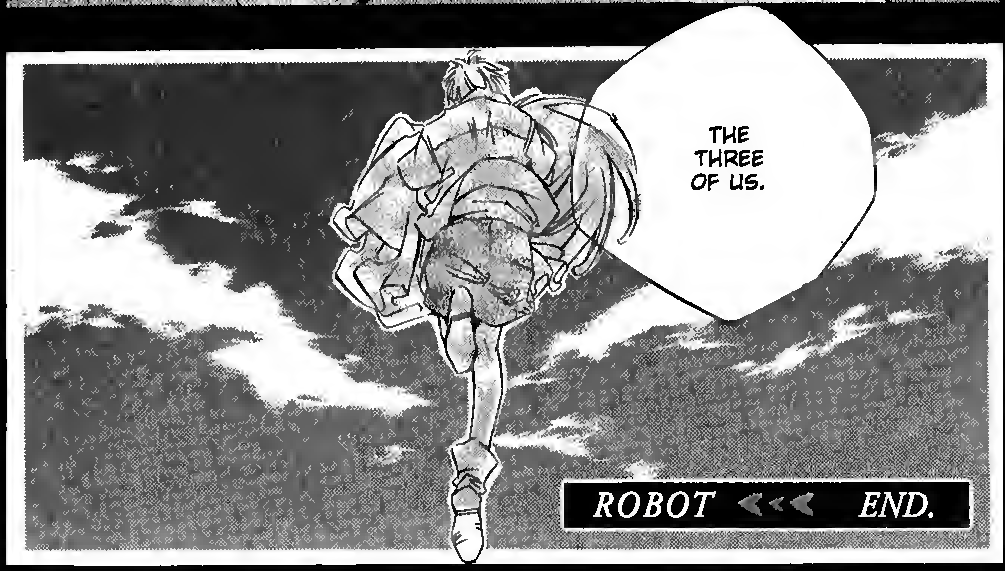


SFX: ZUUUUUN (ZOOOOOM)
GRAN, YOU OUGHTA KNOW BETTER...
YOU CAN'T SPOIL HIM LIKE THIS. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YA...
YOU'RE SO FREAKIN' SLOW. GET OUTTA THE WAY, WILL YA?
—.....

YAMATO, YOU IDIOT!
BUNDLE OF CONTRADICTIONS.....
MUMBLE...
HA (GASP)
YOU REALLY GET MY GOAT, YA KNOW!
OH GRAN! HER ALL YOUNG AND SPRIGHTLY AGAIN...
GYU (HUG)
TH-. THAT'S NOT IT.
IT'S NOT LIKE I LOVE HER OR ANYTHING.
DON'T PUT ME IN THE SAME BOAT AS YOU.....
AW, SHOOT.

FOUND SOMETHING NIIIICE!
SALE
AAAAH!

GUESS WE GOTTA GO ON ANOTHER DATE, HUH?


THE THREE OF US.
ROBOT <<< END.

E N D
I N G
SUMOMO YUMEKA

SOMETHING LIKE AN AFTERWORD.

FIRST OFF, I'M SO HAPPY AND GRATEFUL THAT I COULD DO THESE STORIES IN THIS KIND OF FORMAT. IT'S A COLLECTION OF RANDOM THOUGHTS, BUT IF EVEN ONE THING HERE TOUCHES YOU, THEN I'M HAPPY. I MIGHT HAVE A THOUGHT, BUT IT'S VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ARTICULATE IT CLEARLY. I'M HOPING TO DRAW WHAT'S IN MY HEAD, EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT TAKE LONGER. MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO MY EDITOR AND MY DEAR FRIENDS ALL.

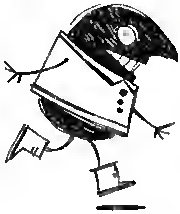
SUMOMO YUMEKA

"THE PRINCESS OF KIKOUYA IN DISTRICT 1"

I CAME UP WITH THIS STORY WHEN I WAS AT A REAL LOW PHYSICALLY. SO I THINK, MENTALLY, I WANTED A SILLY BREAK. AND BOY, DID IT TURN OUT SILLY. I REMEMBER STRUGGLING WITH THE KIND OF FOOD PLACE I'D LIKE TO HAVE MORE OF NEARBY—RAMEN, TAIYAKI, AGEPAN, GYOZA, AND I FORGET WHAT ELSE.

SUCH MESSY WRITING... ;;

"HIMEYUKA & ROZIONE'S STORY"



THIS WAS MY FIRST WORK AFTER GETTING THE CALL FROM THE FOLKS AT ASUKA MAGAZINE. I USUALLY TEND TO FAVOR THE DOWN-TO-EARTH STUFF AND REMEMBER HAVING A REALLY TOUGH TIME ON THIS STORYLINE. DEFINITELY DOWN-TO-EARTH.

IN THE STORY, THE "WEIRDO" YAMAMOTO-KUN WAS INITIALLY AN ELDERLY TEACHER, BUT A GEEZER WASN'T VERY AESTHETICALLY PLEASING, SO I CHANGED HIM INTO A CLASSMATE. THE MODEL FOR YAMAMOTO-KUN WAS STILL MY OLD COLLEGE PROFESSOR (WHO REALLY DID KEEP SWEETS IN HIS POCKET), SO IN MY MIND, THE ELDERLY TEACHER SEEMED THE BEST FIT.

ALSO, IF THERE REALLY WAS A GUY LIKE THAT IN MY CLASS, I'D WANT TO SMACK HIM.

"ROBOT"

THIS IS A WORK THAT I PUBLISHED THROUGH ANOTHER COMPANY. BUT LAST YEAR I WAS HOSPITALIZED FOR A BIT AND HAD SOME OTHER PERSONAL STUFF GOING ON, SO THE NUMBER OF PAGES IN THIS VOLUME WAS A LITTLE OFF, AMONG OTHER THINGS, AND I WAS ALLOWED TO BRING THIS OVER. THIS WORK IS THE OLDEST ONE HERE, AND IT LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED, SEEING AS HOW IT'S NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF LOOSE ENDS, AND THERE ARE NO BEFORE-AND-AFTER EXPLANATIONS, BUT THIS STORY BRINGS BACK LOTS OF FOND MEMORIES FOR ME. MY MOTHER AND I ACTUALLY CREATED THIS TOGETHER (I.E., I BEGGED HER TO HELP ME). IT WAS BORN IN A PERIOD WHEN I WAS EXPERIENCING SEVERE WRITER'S BLOCK ON A DIFFERENT SCRIPT, AND I SECRETLY STARTED SHAPING THIS STORY. THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO DO IT ON MY OWN WITHOUT TROUBLING ANYONE ELSE, BUT ENDED UP ENLISTING MY MOTHER'S HELP IN THE END. AFTER COMING ACROSS THE LINE, "THAT'S WHY I FIND HUMANS SO ANNOYING," MY MOTHER APPARENTLY BECAME CONCERNED THAT I'D HIT A LATE-BLOOMING PHASE OF REBELLIOUSNESS. YEAH, RIGHT... THIS ONE CAME OUT PRETTY WORDY. I WISH I COULD HAVE CLEANED IT UP A LOT MORE...(WHICH CAN BE SAID FOR PRETTY MUCH ALL OF THESE...)

"MY VERY OWN SHALALA"

THIS IS MY SPECTACULARLY FAILED ATTEMPT AT A GENRE IN WHICH I'M NOT VERY GOOD...OBVIOUSLY. THE EXCITEMENT LEVEL IN THIS ODDLY COBBLED-TOGETHER FANTASY TALE DIPPED AND NEVER REALLY RECOVERED. I REMEMBER PLAYING AROUND, MAKING FUN OF MY OWN INEPTITUDE ON THIS ONE. IT WAS PAINFUL, BUT FUN.

WHENEVER I BUNGLE THE CREATION OF A WORK, I'M SADDENED TO MAKE MORE WORK FOR OTHERS. BUT THE PROCESS IS ALSO SO MUCH FUN THAT I'M HAPPY TO BE DOING IT. IT MIGHT NOT BE MUCH OF A "THANK YOU" IN RETURN FOR THEIR PAINS, BUT SOMEDAY I HOPE TO CREATE A FANTASTIC PIECE OF WORK...

SORRY FOR THE MESSY WRITING :- TILL THE END. THANK YOU!!

2005. JAN. SUMOMO YUMEKA

LEFT ON ITS OWN FOR OVER A YEAR... THIS YEAR I'LL DO SOMETHING WITH IT FOR SURE.

http://www.be.biglobe.ne.jp/~sasshi-/

(ED NOTE: WEBSITE IS JAPANESE ONLY.)

YEAH, RIGHT...IT'S ME WE'RE TALKING ABOUT... :- WHO KNOWS WHAT'LL HAPPEN...

Translation Notes

Page 3: unwanted ghosts (*mottainai obake*)
Himeyuka's mother tries to scare her daughter with a common threat parents use on their children in Japan. *Mottainai* means "what a waste," and so the *mottainai obake* is the ghost who comes to haunt children who let things go to waste.

Page 46: *-gumi*
In the world of Japanese organized crime, adding this suffix to a surname is how yakuza crime syndicates or gangs are named. For example, the Ayanokouji*gumi* in this story.

Page 49: *chashuumen*
A kind of ramen noodle soup that features barbecued pork as a topping.

Page 49: *shio* ramen
A kind of ramen noodle soup made with a clear, salt-based broth.

Page 184: *taiyaki*
A Japanese snack cake that is made of batter shaped like a fish and usually filled with sweet red bean paste.

Page 184: *agepan*
Deep-fried bread that is similar to a doughnut.

Page 184: *gyoza*
A Chinese dumpling that is made of various savory fillings and wrapped in a thinly rolled sheet of dough.

NOTES

Common Honorifics

no honorific: Indicares familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys (though it can be applied to girls as well), this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

-dono: Used at the end of men's names and loosely means "lord." Denotes great respect and is generally used in formal or ceremonial settings. Not usually part of the colloquial language.

HIMEYUKA & ROZIONE'S STORY

SUMOMO YUMEKA

Translation: Kaori Inoue • Lettering: Sita Swain

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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